



SCOTT PILGRIM™

SCOTT PILGRIM'S
PRECIOUS LITTLE LIFE

BY BRYAN LEE O'MALLEY

1

COLOR EDITION

ONI PRESS
PRESENTS

**BRYAN LEE
O'MALLEY'S**



PILGR



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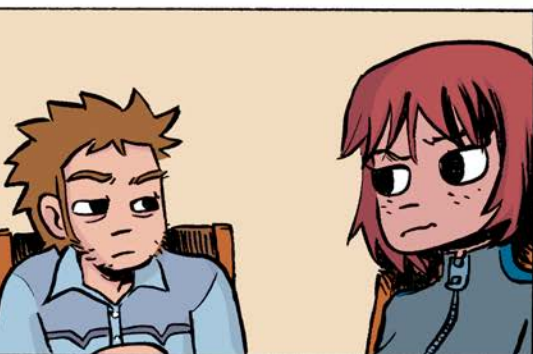
SCOTT
PILGRIM
IS DATING
A HIGH
SCHOOLER!



REALLY?
IS SHE
HOT?

HOW OLD
ARE YOU
NOW,
SCOTT,
LIKE
28?

I'M NOT
PLAYING
YOUR
LITTLE
GAMES,
KIDS.



SO YOU'VE
BEEN OUT OF
HIGH SCHOOL FOR
LIKE, 13 YEARS,
AND—

I'M
23!
23!



AND
YOU'RE DATING
A HIGH
SCHOOLER?

NOT
BAD,
NOT
BAD.

DATING
A...
COME
ON, WHAT
DOES
THAT
EVEN
MEAN?



YEAH,
LIKE,
DID YOU
GUYS
"DO IT"
YET?



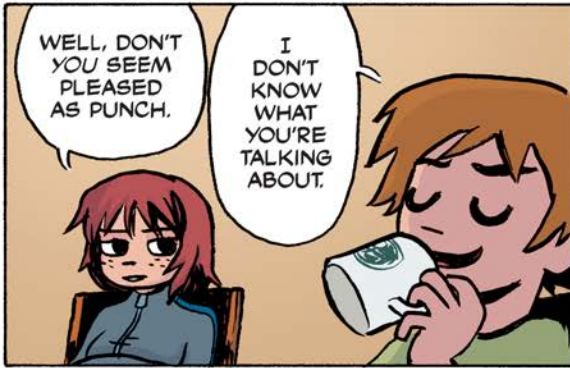
WELL, WE SORT
OF RIDE THE BUS,
AND SHE TELLS ME
ABOUT HOW YEARBOOK
CLUB WENT, AND
ABOUT HER FRIENDS,
AND, YOU KNOW,
DRAMA...



YEAH, OKAY... HAVE YOU EVEN KISSED HER?



WE ALMOST HELD HANDS ONCE, BUT THEN SHE GOT EMBARRASSED.



WELL, DON'T YOU SEEM PLEASED AS PUNCH.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.



SO WHAT'S HER NAME?

KNIVES CHAU. SHE'S CHINESE.



THAT'S WICKED! WHERE'D YOU MEET HER, ANYWAY?



I BELIEVE I MENTIONED THE BUS...?



THE BUS

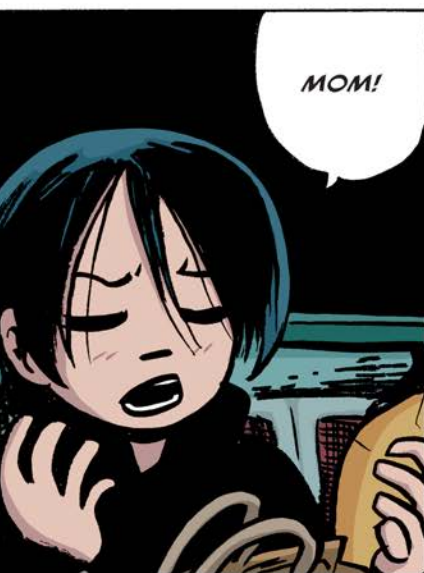
A FEW NIGHTS AGO

SHERMAN, NICE BOY, YOU LIKE HIM.



MOM,
I'M
SERIOUSLY
NOT
INTERESTED
AT ALL.

YOU
ARE
SEVENTEEN
YEAR OLD!
TIME
TO GET
INTERESTED
IN BOY!



MOM!



YOU
DROP
BOOKS.

AAAA!

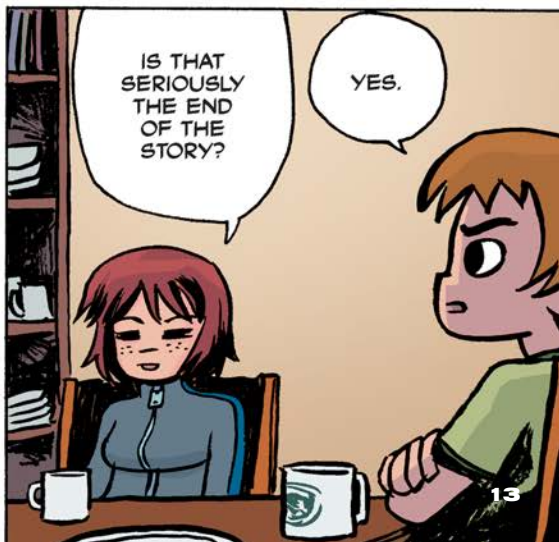
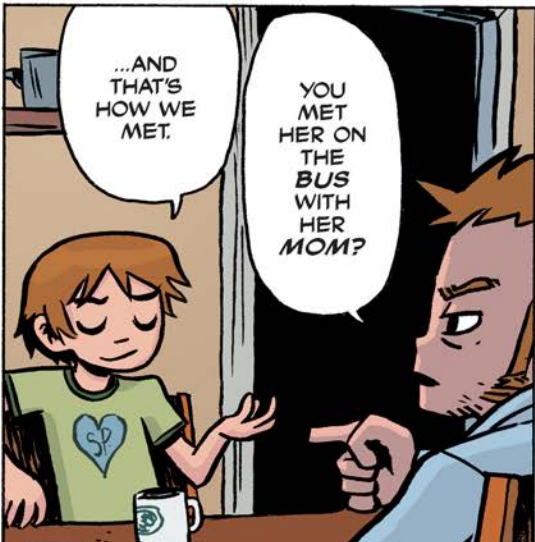


GRMBL
SNRFT
SMKETY

HEY...



SCOTT PILGRIM
23 YEARS OLD
RATING: AWESOME

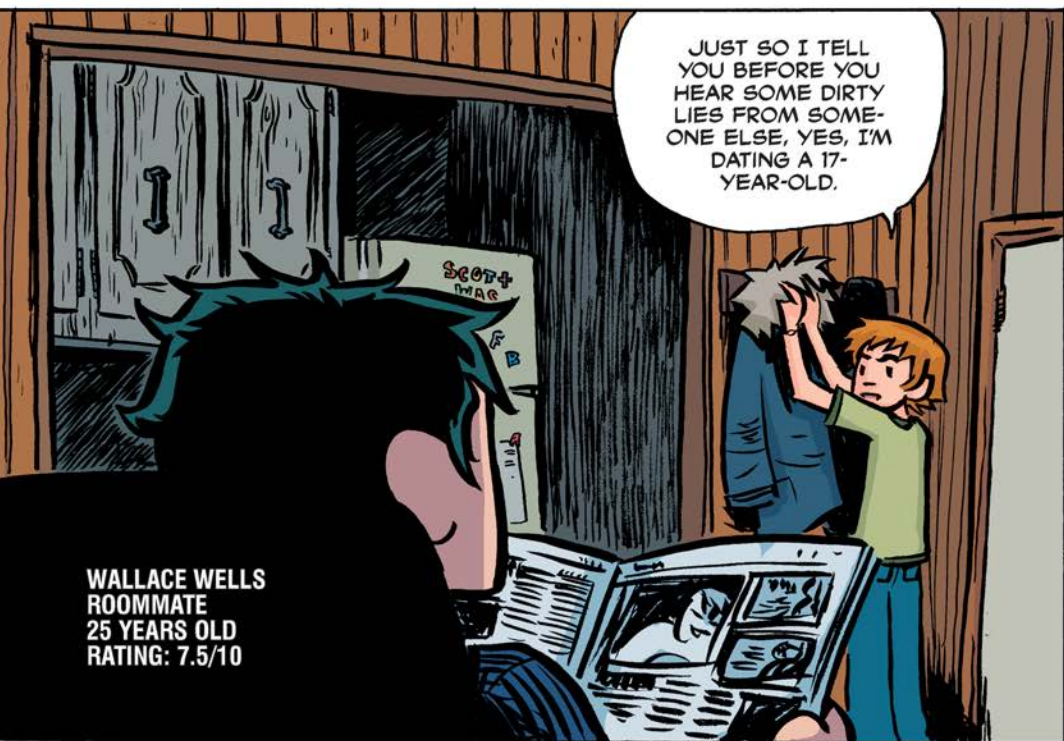






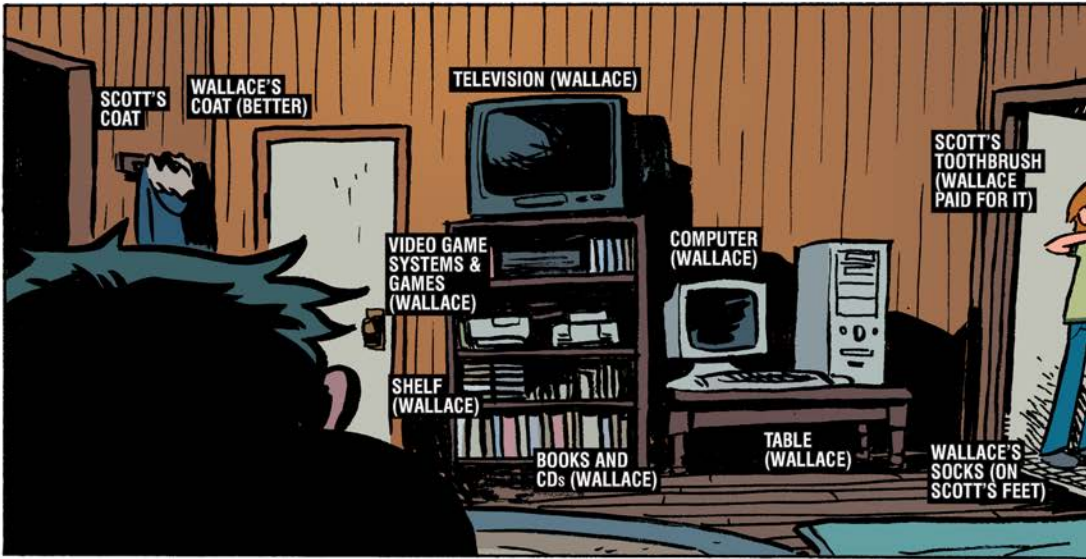
DATING A HIGH SCHOOLER







SCOTT & WALLACE'S APARTMENT: OWNERSHIP DIAGRAM



THE NEXT DAY OR SOMETHING

YOU
HAVE TO
PROMISE
TO BE
GOOD.

OF
COURSE
I'LL BE
GOOD!

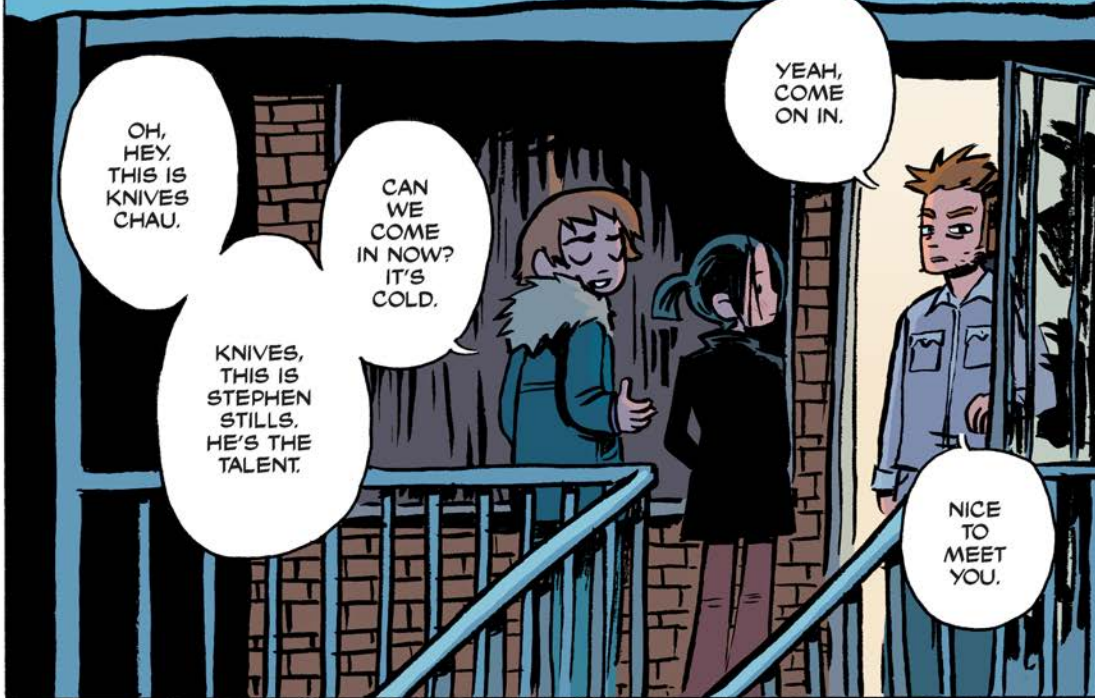
NO,
REALLY,
PLEASE,
BE
GOOD.

I'LL BE
GOOD!
AM I
NORMALLY
NOT?

YOU
PROMISE
TO BE
GOOD?

YES,
I'LL BE
SO
GOOD.

WHAT
THE HELL
ARE YOU
MAKING
THIS POOR
GIRL SAY,
SCOTT?



OH, HEY, THIS IS KNIVES CHAU.

CAN WE COME IN NOW? IT'S COLD.

YEAH, COME ON IN.

KNIVES, THIS IS STEPHEN STILLS. HE'S THE TALENT.

NICE TO MEET YOU.



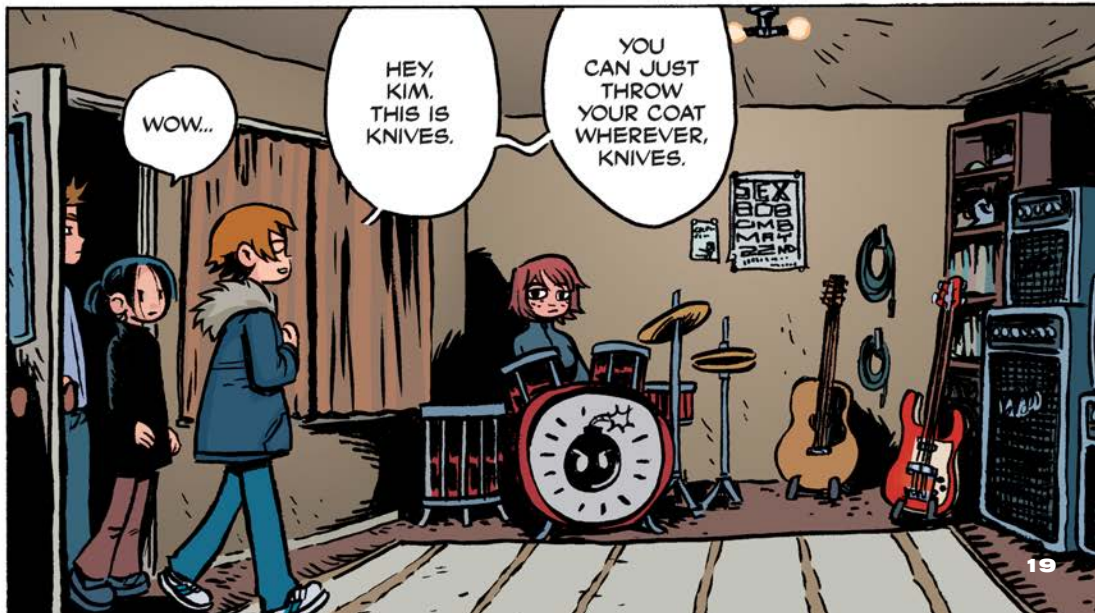
HE MADE ME PROMISE TO BE GOOD!



HE MAY HAVE BEEN KIDDING. ARE YOU NORMALLY BAD?



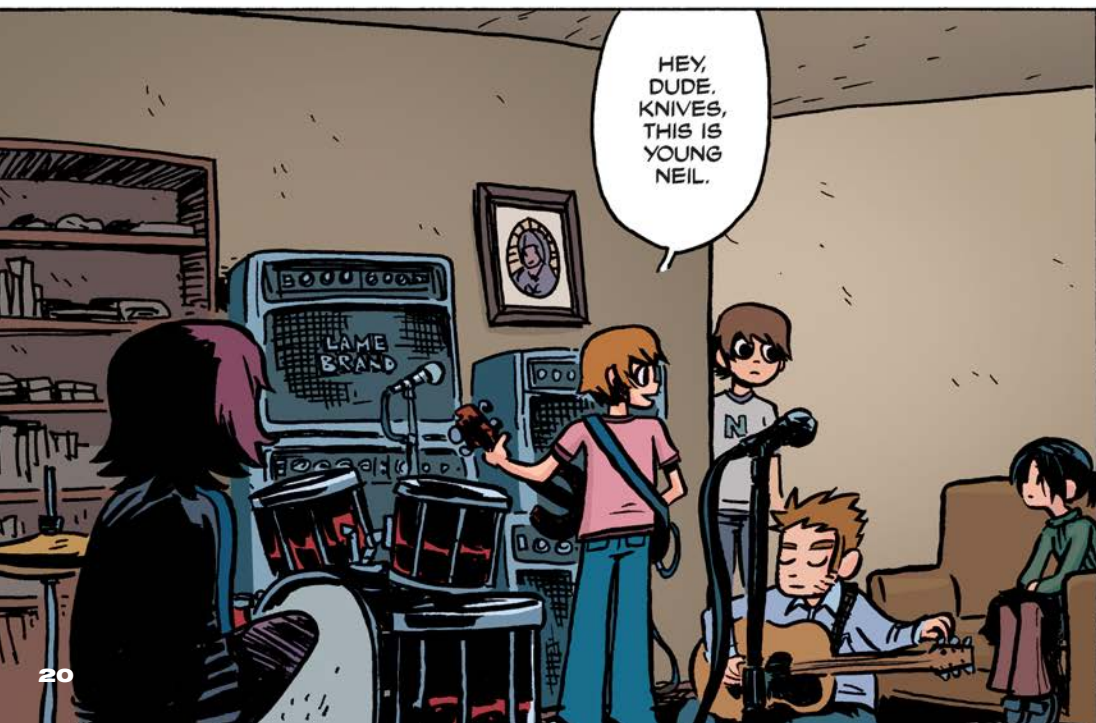
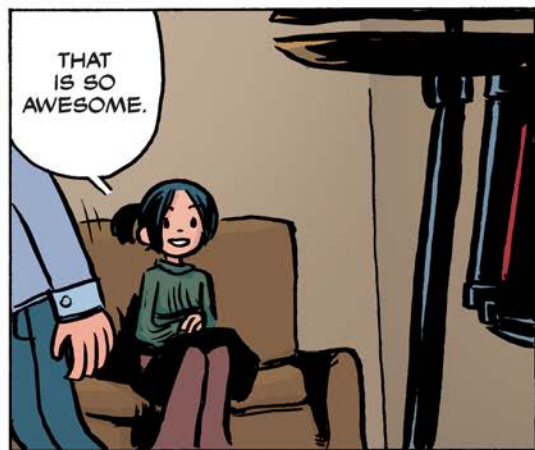
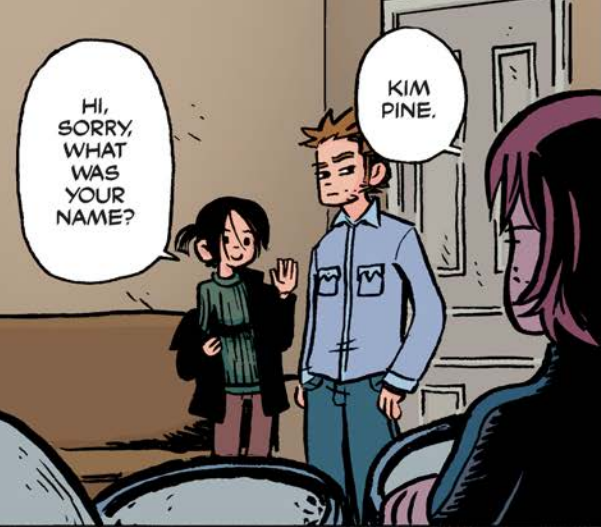
I THOUGHT I WAS OKAY...

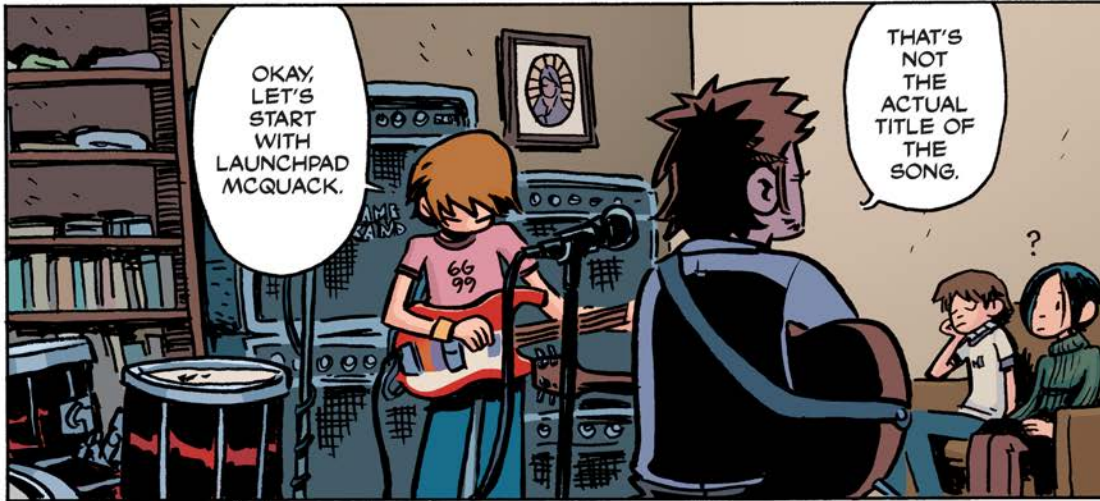


WOW...

HEY, KIM. THIS IS KNIVES.

YOU CAN JUST THROW YOUR COAT WHEREVER, KNIVES.





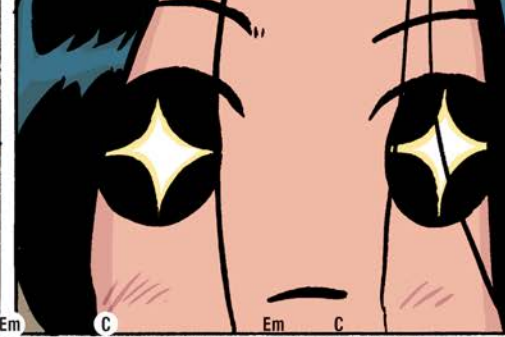


I / can't be sure / but I think I heard you / crawl thru the door / you / didn't say a word / and i think you tried to go to bed
but instead you went to floor / you've been out drinking with the other boys again / telling them no we are only friends

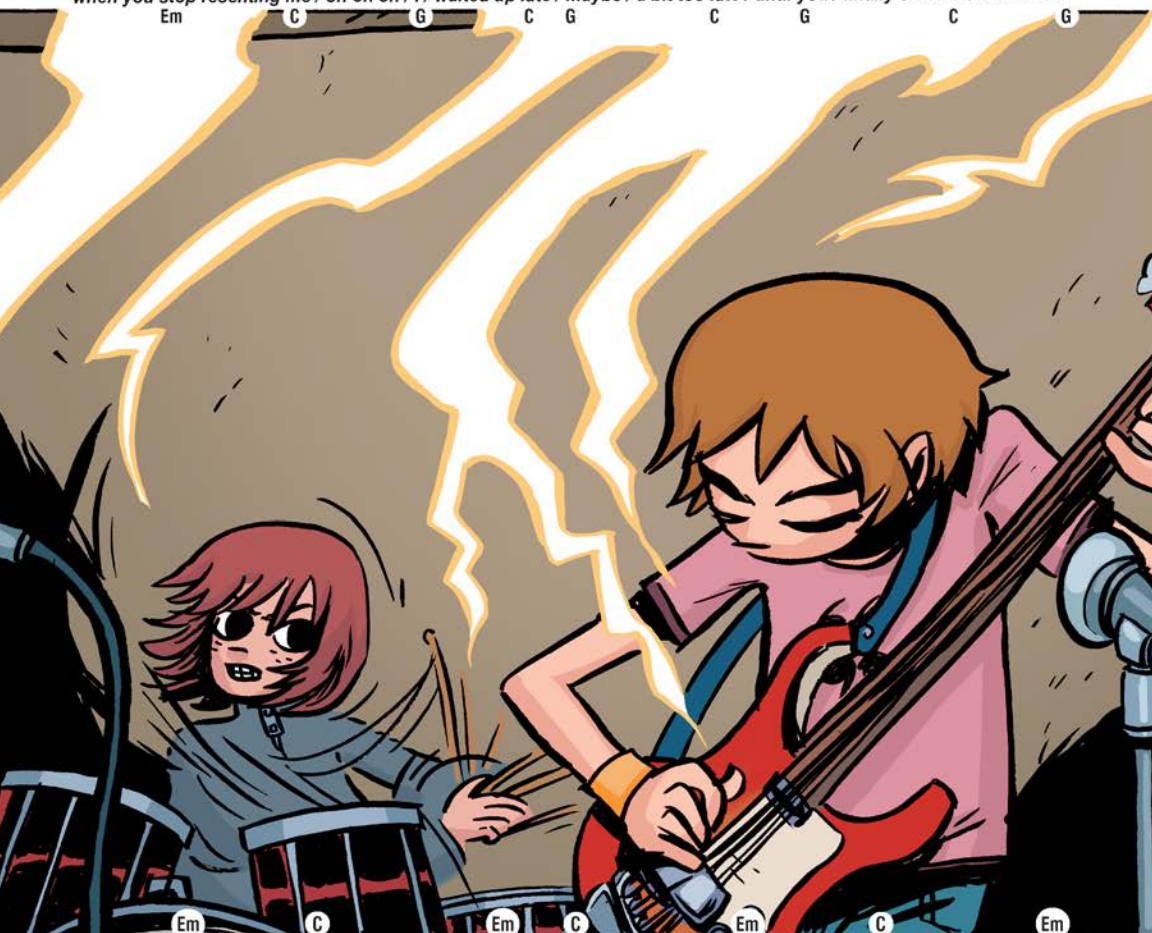


end / and where do you begin? / you've been out partying with guys i've never met / drinking beer and smoking cigarettes
killing brain cells and killing me / oh stop pretending / that this isn't really ending / and I will stop resenting you

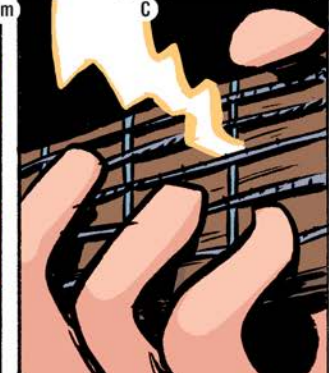




making out and making noise / oh stop pretending / that this isn't really ending / and i will stop resenting you
 when you stop resenting me / oh oh oh // waited up late / maybe / a bit too late / until you / finally came in / where do i



when you stop resenting me / why don't you stop pretending / that this game is never-ending / and i will stop
 resenting you when you stop resenting stop resenting stop resenting stop resenting me







I
CAN'T
EVEN...
WOW.



YOU
GUYS
ARE SO
AMAZING.
SOOOO
AMAZING.

TRAPNEST NEW ALBUM
TRIGGER APRIL 2004
CANADIAN ROCKS PRESENTS



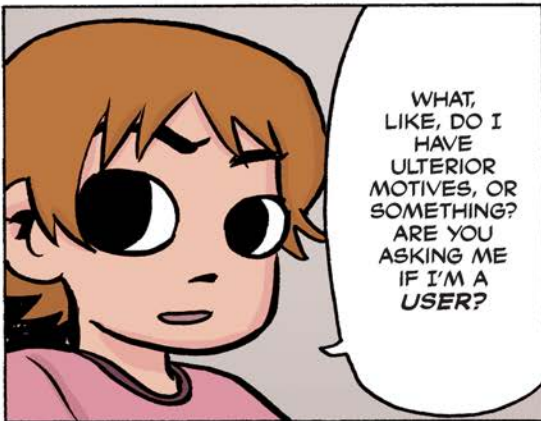
SEX
BOB-OMB.
WOW.



I'LL, UH...
I'LL COME
BY AND SEE
YOU AFTER
SCHOOL
TOMORROW,
OKAY?

AFTERWARDS







SH-SHE'S SEVENTEEN, AND HOW DID YOU KNOW??

WALLACE TOLD ME.

THAT GOSSIPY BITCH!

YEAH, I CALLED LAST NIGHT, BUT YOU WERE AT BAND PRACTICE OR SOMETHING. ANYWAY, SCANDAL!!!!

WHATEVER!

DON'T YOU WHATEVER ME!!! WHO IS THIS MYSTERIOUS CHILD???

HER NAME IS KNIVES.

KNIVES WHAT?

...CHAU.

SHE'S CHINESE???

WAIT UNTIL MOM HEARS ABOUT THIS!!!!

MOM'S IN EUROPE! I AIN'T SCARED!

A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD CHINESE HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.

YOU'RE RIDICULOUS, SCOTT.

IT'S A CATHOLIC SCHOOL, TOO...

WHAT???!? WITH THE UNIFORM AND EVERYTHING???!?

YEAH, THE WHOLE DEAL.



OH MY
GOD. YOU
HAVEN'T-



NO NO
NO NO NO.
GOD, NO.
WE HAVEN'T
EVEN HELD
HANDS. I
THINK SHE
HUGGED ME
ONCE.



UM,
SCOTT...
WHY ARE
YOU DOING
THIS?



I... I DON'T
KNOW. IT'S
JUST NICE, YOU
KNOW? IT'S
JUST SIMPLE.



IT'S BEEN
OVER A
YEAR SINCE
YOU BROKE
UP WITH-

YEAH,
YEAH.



SO
ARE YOU
LEGITIMATELY
MOVING ON,
OR IS THIS
JUST YOU
BEING
INSANE?



I'LL LET
YOU
KNOW,
OKAY?



I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE AT ALL.

NO, IT'S COOL. CHILL OUT. IT'S LIKE IN TRAIN-SPOTTING.

OKAY, FIRST OF ALL, IN TRAINSPOTTING, REMEMBER HOW HE WAS FREAKING OUT AND ALL WORRIED? THAT WAS BECAUSE HE KNEW IT WAS SICK AND WRONG AND ILLEGAL.

SECONDLY, REMEMBER HOW SHE WAS COERCING HIM INTO DATING HER?

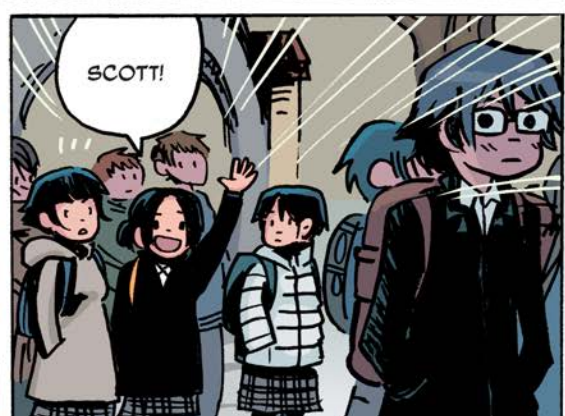


NO, DUDE, IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL.



YOU JUST SAID IT WAS LIKE THAT!



OKAY, MAYBE I DIDN'T WATCH THAT MOVIE VERY CAREFULLY.







TAMARA IS INTO THIS KOREAN GUY, BOBBY, BUT EVERYONE THINKS BOBBY HAS A CRUSH ON MINA. PLUS, BOBBY IS KIND OF FOBBY.

BUT I THOUGHT DEREK AND TAMARA HAD A MUTUAL LIKING-EACH-OTHER THING GOING!

WELL YEAH, BUT DEREK'S TOO, UM... "SOCIALLY REFINED" TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

WHAT, HE'S SHY?

I GUESS THAT'S PART OF IT.

YOUR FRIENDS CRACK ME UP. WANT TO GO TO GOOD-WILL?



BUT YEAH,
YEARBOOK
CLUB WAS
BASICALLY
FUN TODAY.

IT'S
WEIRD HOW
IT'S LIKE
HALF
ASIANS
THIS
YEAR.



...I
DON'T
THINK I'VE
EVER
BEEN IN
HERE.

AHH,
IT
AIN'T
ALL
THAT.



MOST
OF THIS
STUFF
IS BAD,
BUT NOT
IN THE
HILARIOUS
WAY.

YEAH,
PRETTY
MUCH.



SO,
YOUR
BAND...

IT'S NOT
REALLY MY BAND.
IT'S MOSTLY
STEPHEN
STILLS'
THING.



DO YOU
ALWAYS
REFER TO
HIM BY
HIS FULL
NAME?



WHO,
STEPHEN
STILLS?
YES.



WHO-EVER'S BAND IT IS, I REALLY LIKE IT.

WELL, THANKS.



I DON'T LISTEN TO THAT MUCH MUSIC, AND, I MEAN, I KNOW A LOT OF KIDS WHO PLAY PIANO OR WHATEVER, BUT YOU GUYS ROCK.



I KNEW THAT I PERSONALLY ROCKED, BUT I NEVER SUSPECTED THAT WE ROCKED AS A UNIT. THANK YOU, KNIVES.



HMM, THIS IS ACTUALLY PRETTY CUTE. TOO BAD IT'S WINTER...

HEY, SPRING'S AROUND THE CORNER. TRY IT ON.



NO, NO... I MEAN...

...I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE I'D BUY IT.



WHAT I MEANT TO SAY WAS...

I MEAN, I'VE... I'VE NEVER GONE OUT WITH SOMEONE SO TALENTED.

HAVE YOU GONE OUT WITH A LOT OF GUYS?



NO!

YEAH, SO WHAT-EVER, MAN!



I'VE NEVER EVEN KISSED A GUY.



ME NEITHER.

GOOD TO KNOW.



WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW? YOUR SECRET LAIR?

MY SECRET LAIR IS ONE OF THOSE "NO GIRLS ALLOWED" DEALS, ACTUALLY.

SO WHERE?



IT'S... OKAY, IT'S MY OLD HOUSE. IT'S WHERE I LIVED WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL.



DO YOUR PARENTS STILL LIVE THERE?

NO, THEY LEFT... THEY SOLD IT. **SIGH**



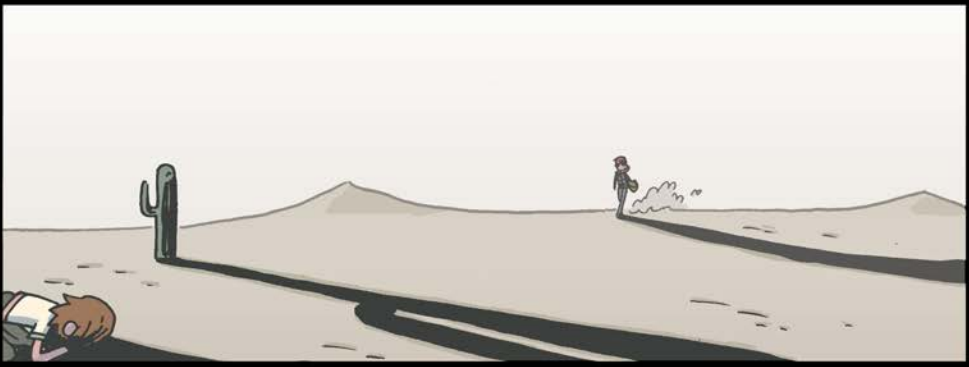
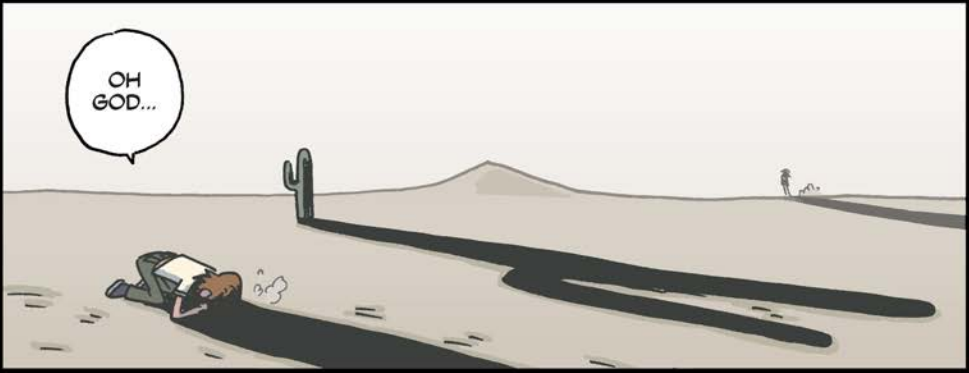
SO
YEAH,
THIS IS
WHERE IT
ALL HAPPENED.

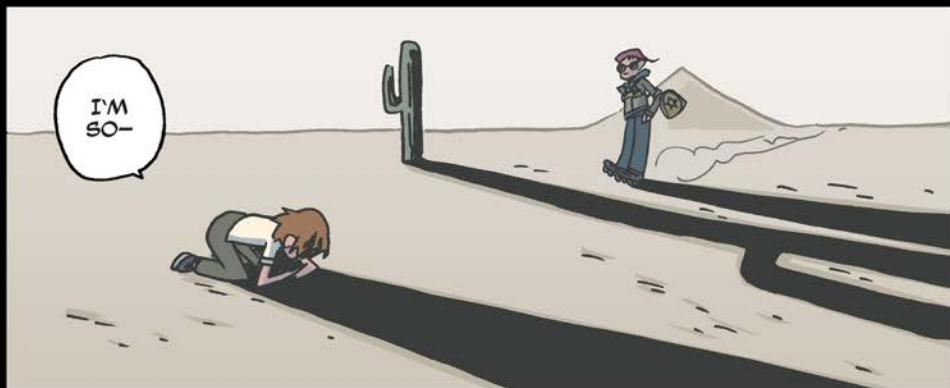
IT'S SO
PRETTY.

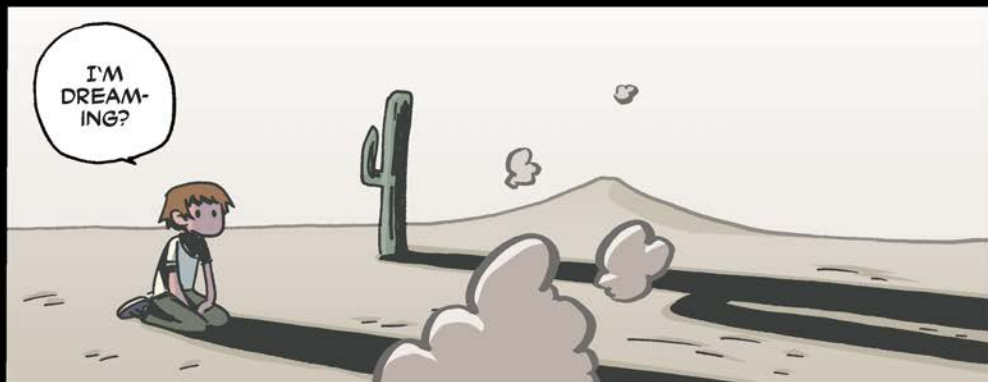
Scratch
scratch

I'LL,
UH... I'LL
WALK
YOU TO
THE BUS
STOP,
OKAY?









2

DO YOU KNOW HER?



DO YOU WANT THE LAST SALMON THINGY?

NO, YOU GO AHEAD.

BUT I'M FULL... OR AM I JUST UN-BEARABLY KIND?

REALLY, IT'S YOURS.



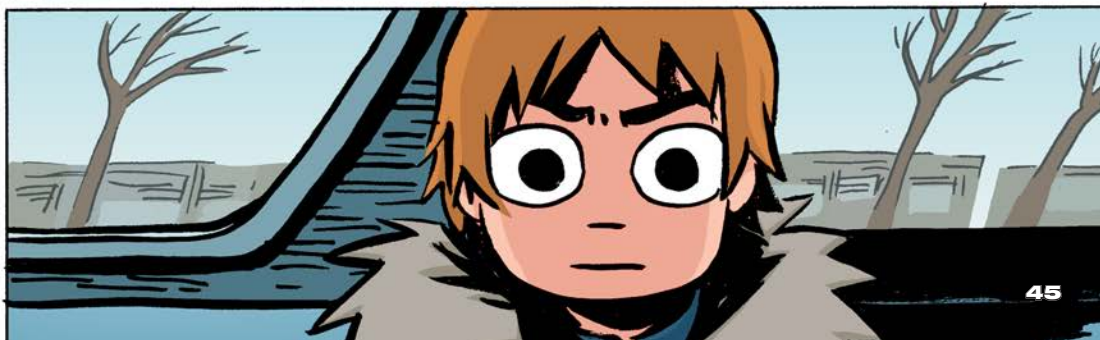
NO, WALLACE, I INSIST.

YOINK.



YOU DESERVE THAT MORE THAN I DO, OTHER SCOTT.

DAMN STRAIGHT.





OKAY,
THAT
SHOULD
DO IT.

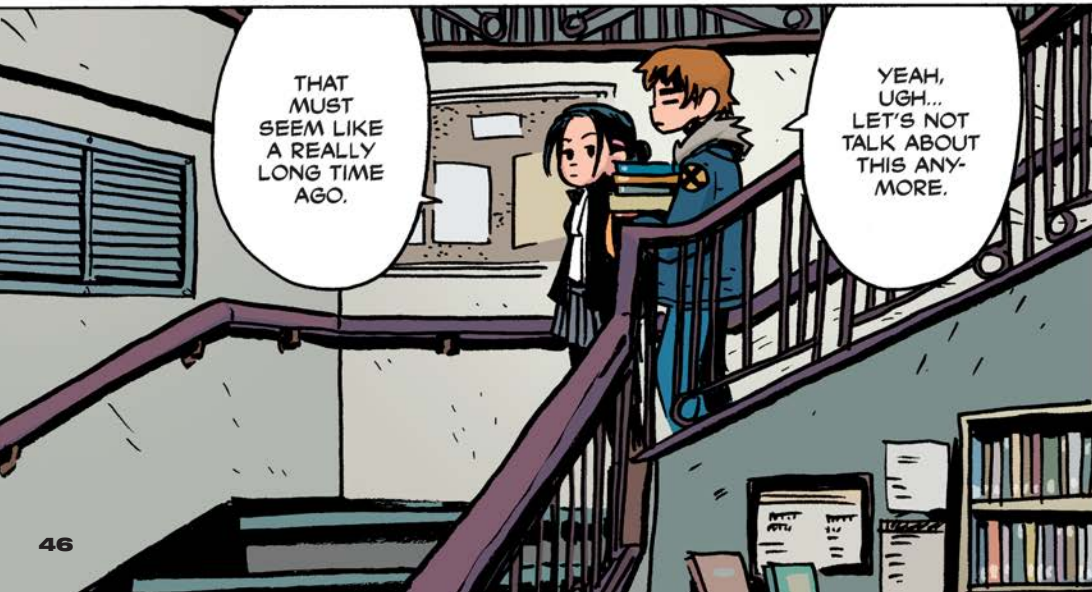
THIS
IS SO
WEIRD...



WHAT'S
WEIRD?



LIBRARIES
ALWAYS
REMINDE
ME OF
GRADE
SCHOOL..



THAT
MUST
SEEM LIKE
A REALLY
LONG TIME
AGO.

YEAH,
UGH...
LET'S NOT
TALK ABOUT
THIS ANY-
MORE.



JUST SIGN IT RIGHT-YEAH, THERE. THANKS.



AMAZON.COM
Delivery slip
To: [unclear]
From: [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

YO,
WHAT'S
UP?
HELLO?



DO
YOU
KNOW
THAT
GIRL?



NO, I...
WAIT...
I DON'T
THINK
SO?

...ISN'T
IT TOO
SNOWY
OUTSIDE
TO BE
ROLLER-
BLADING?



SCOTT...



...YOU ONLY PLAYED ONE NOTE FOR THAT ENTIRE SONG.

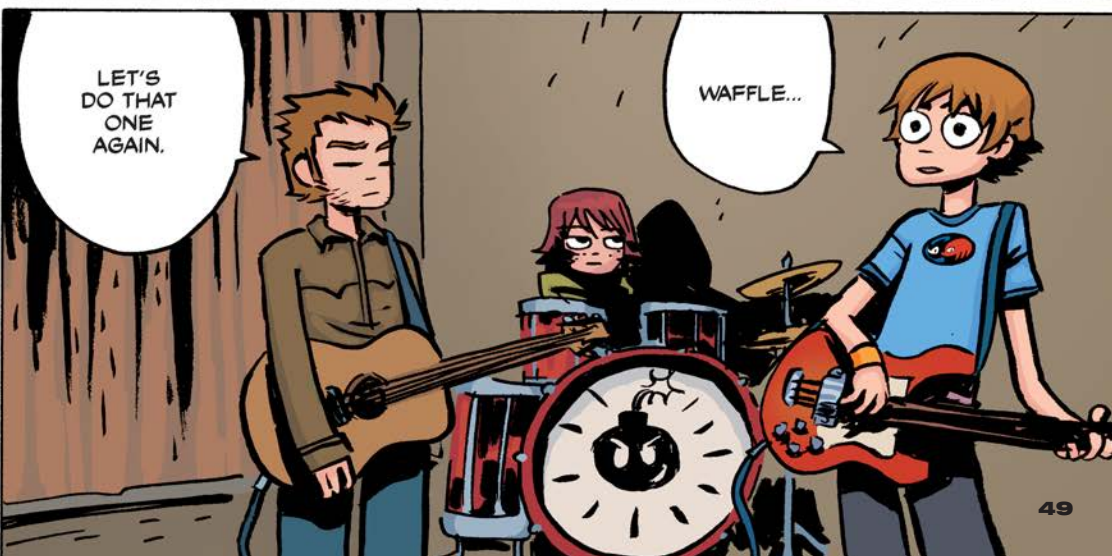


IT WAS... UH... I... MY HAND SLIPPED?

IS YOUR *GIRLFRIEND* DISTRACTING YOU?



I'LL BE QUIETER!



LET'S DO THAT ONE AGAIN.

WAFFLE...







I'M
DREAMING.



GOOD
CALL.



...WHAAA...?



I'M
COOOOOLD!

WHATEVER.
IT'S LIKE
SPRING
OUT.



...



WHERE
ARE WE
GOOOING?

I TOLD
YOU LIKE
FIFTY
TIMES!



WELL, I
FORGOT,
OKAY?!

LIKE IT'S
MY FAULT
YOU'RE
STUPID?

* SIGH *



SO
WHERE--

I'M
SERIOUSLY
NOT EVEN
TELLING
YOU
NOW.

WE'RE
GOING
TO THAT
PARTY,
RETARD.



AT
JULIE'S.



AW,
MAN...



DUDE.





YOU MEAN RAMONA?

UHH... I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE?



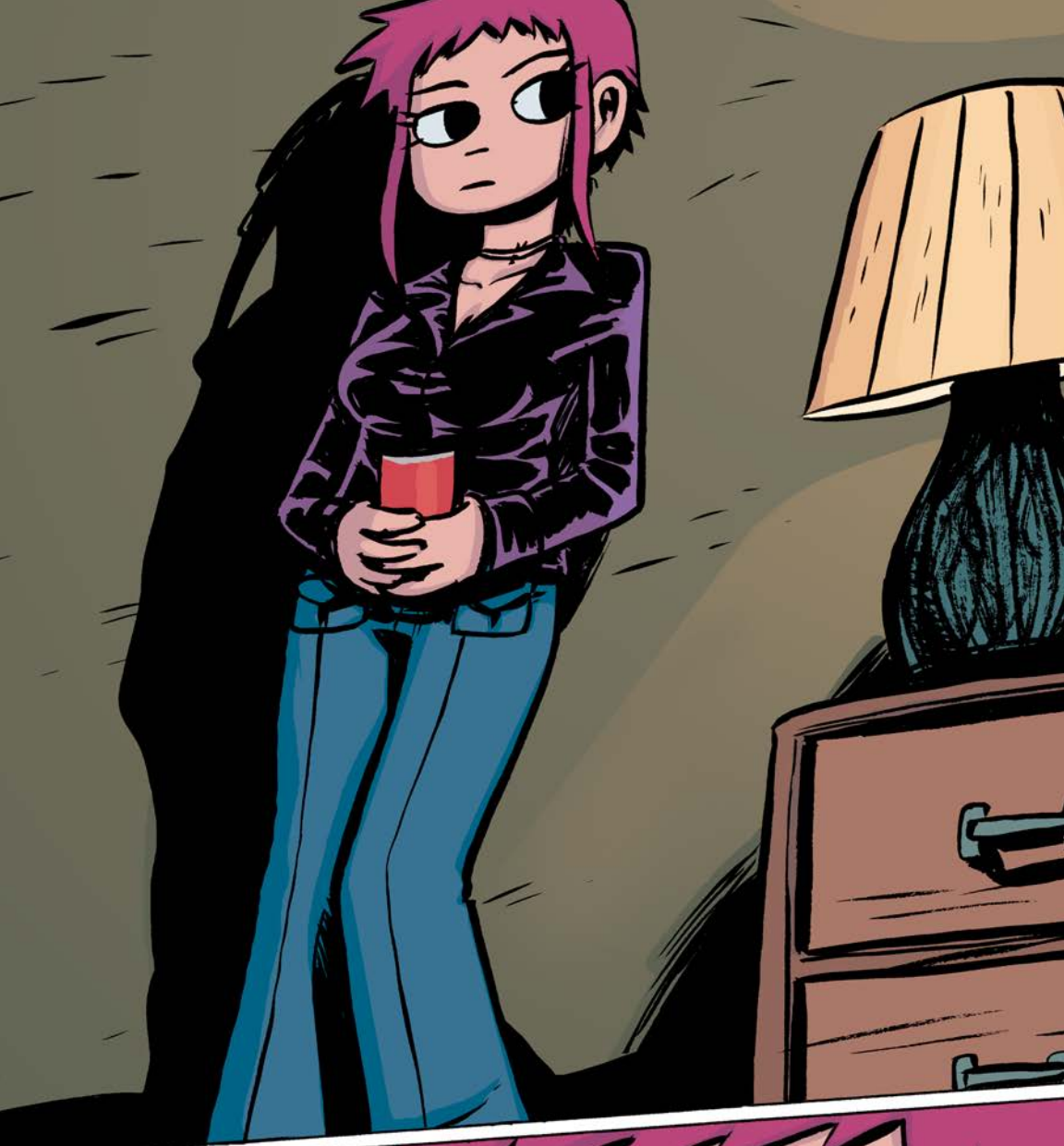
YEAH, MAN, RAMONA FLOWERS. SOMEONE SAID SHE WAS COMING TONIGHT, ACTUALLY. YOU SHOULD LOOK AROUND. YOU GOT THE HOTS FOR HER? I HEAR SHE'S HARDCORE.



WAIT UP, SHE'S HERE? DUDE, I GOTTA GO LOOK FOR HER!









HEY,
WHAT'S
UP?

3

THIS ONE GIRL...



NOTHING.

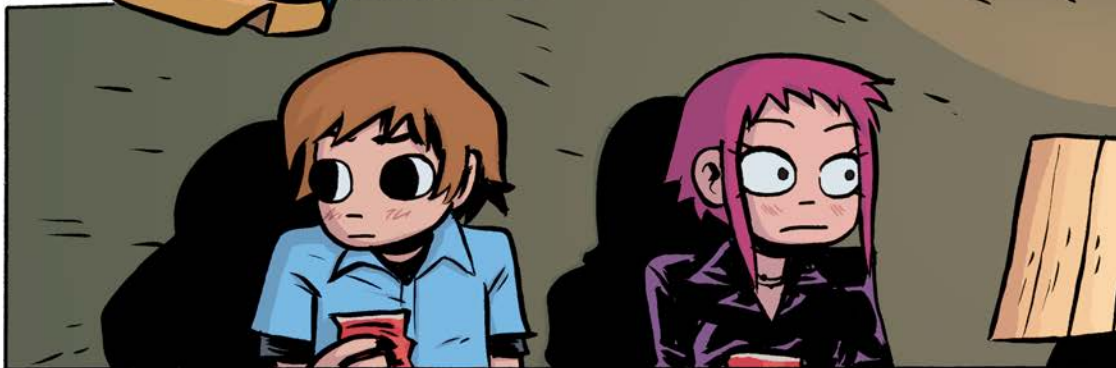


I LIKE
YOUR
SHOES?



THANKS.
I GOT
THEM IN
ENGLAND.

THEY
REMINDE
ME OF
SOMETHING,
BUT I
CAN'T
REMEMBER
WHAT. UM...
AM I
DREAMING?



I'LL LEAVE
YOU ALONE
FOREVER
NOW.

THANKS.



AND THEN HE STALKED HER UNTIL SHE LEFT THE PARTY.





OKAY,
OKAY, WHAT
DO YOU
KNOW ABOUT
HER?



I HEARD
SHE'S
AMERICAN, BUT
I KNOW SHE'S
BEEN IN TOWN
FOR AT LEAST A
COUPLE OF
WEEKS.



I'M
REALLY NOT
SURE IF SHE
MOVED HERE, OR
IF SHE'S JUST
VISITING. MAYBE
YOU SHOULD ASK
SANDRA AND
MONIQUE. I THINK
I SAW FLOWERS
TALKING TO THEM
EARLIER...



HEY,
DO YOU
GUYS
KNOW
RAMONA
FLOWERS?



JULIE
INTRODUCED
ME TO HER.
DOESN'T
SHE HAVE
THE MOST
RIDICULOUS
NAME?



I KNOW.
IT'S SO
"RAMONA
QUIMBY,
AGE 8,"
AND YET...
FLOWERS.



ANYWAY, I
THINK SHE HAS
A BOYFRIEND,
SCOTT, SO
FORGET ABOUT
IT.



SHE
TOTALLY
DOES.
SOME GUY
BACK IN
NEW
YORK.



HEY,
JULIE, WHO
INVITED
RAMONA
FLOWERS?

...ME,
SCOTT.



HOW DO
YOU KNOW
HER? I
THOUGHT SHE
WAS FROM
NEW YORK.



SHE JUST
MOVED TO TOWN.
SHE GOT THIS
JOB DELIVERING
FOR AMAZON.CA,
AND SHE KEPT
COMING IN TO
THE SECOND
CUP WHERE I
WORK...



...AND YOU
MADE FRIENDS
WITH HER,
BECAUSE YOU
MAKE FRIENDS
WITH EVERY-
ONE.

PRETTY
MUCH.

DIDN'T
YOU SAY
SHE JUST
HAD A BIG
BREAKUP,
OR SOMETHING?



...YES,
BUT I DIDN'T
WANT SCOTT
TO KNOW
THAT,
STEPHEN.

...OH.



DID SHE
REALLY?



SCOTT,
I FORBID YOU
FROM HITTING
ON RAMONA,
EVEN IF YOU
HAVEN'T HAD
A GIRLFRIEND
IN OVER A
YEAR.



DUDE, HE'S
GOING OUT
WITH A HIGH
SCHOOLER
RIGHT NOW.
HIS MOURNING
PERIOD IS
OFFICIALLY
OVER.



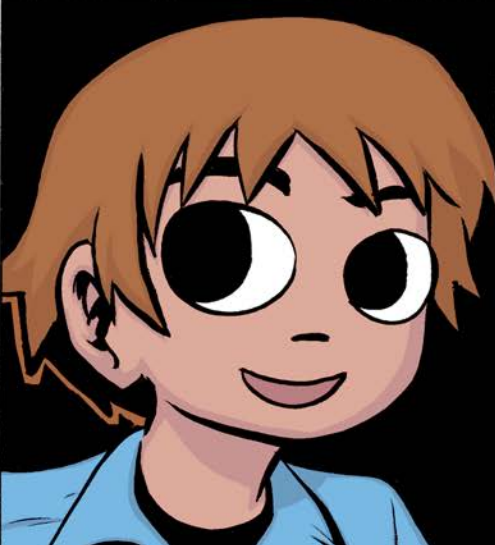
UGH...
SCOTT,
SHE'S TOO
GOOD FOR
YOU, OKAY?
LET'S LEAVE
IT AT
THAT.



AND
ANYWAY,
I'M NOT
EVEN SURE
IF SHE
REALLY DID
HAVE A BIG
BREAKUP.



SHE'S KIND
OF VAGUE
ABOUT IT, SO I
HAD TO PIECE IT
TOGETHER
INTUITIVELY.
SHE JUST KEEPS
MENTIONING
SOME GUY
NAMED
GIDEON...



I DON'T
KNOW WHAT
IT IS ABOUT
THAT GIRL.
SHE JUST--



FORGET
ABOUT IT,
SCOTT!

LATER THAT EVENING





I WENT TO THIS PARTY WITH STEPHEN STILLS AND THEM. I WAS... I-I SAW THIS ONE GIRL, AND-



GIRL. OKAY...



I THINK I'VE BEEN HAVING, LIKE, RECURRING DREAMS ABOUT HER. I SAW HER AT THE LIBRARY, AND...



LIBRARY... CAN I PRETEND WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A GUY?



SO THEN I'M AT THIS PARTY, AND HEY! THERE SHE IS.



THERE HE IS.



I... I THINK I'M IN LOVE, BUT... SOMETHING'S BOTHERING ME.



OH YEAH?

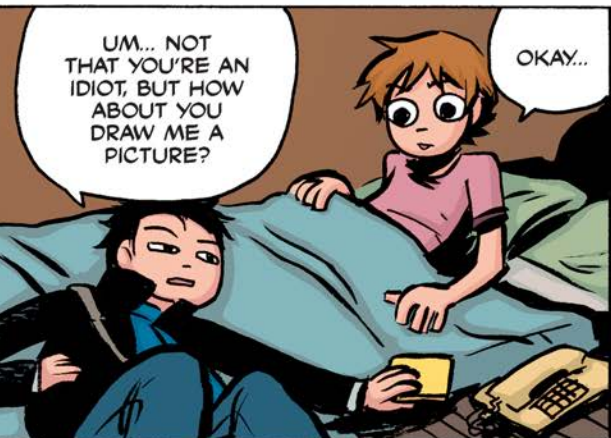


IT'S... IT'S HER SHOES. SHE WAS WEARING THESE SHOES. THESE HAUNTING SHOES.

WHAT'D THEY LOOK LIKE?

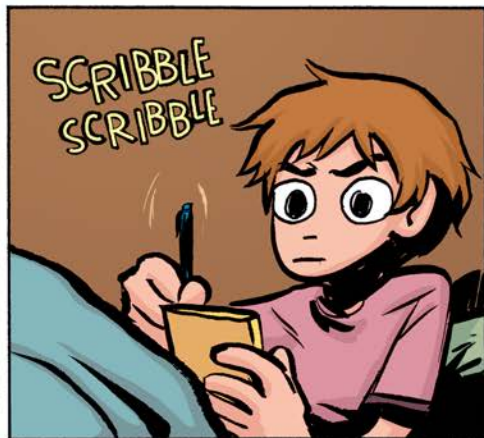


THEY LOOKED... REALLY... UNCOMFORTABLE.



UM... NOT THAT YOU'RE AN IDIOT, BUT HOW ABOUT YOU DRAW ME A PICTURE?

OKAY...



SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE



THEY WERE SOMETHING LIKE THAT, I GUESS?



THESE SHOES ARE MR. SILLY'S SHOES, SCOTT.

THE NEXT MORNING OR TECHNICALLY AFTERNOON





chew
chew



HEY,
AMAZON.CA,
THAT'S THE
ONLINE
BOOKSTORE
OR
WHATEVER,
RIGHT?

YEP.



WHAT'S THE
WEBSITE
FOR THAT?



...AMAZON.CA



COOL!
THANKS!



OKAY,
WHAT EXACTLY
ARE YOU
PLANNING TO
DO ON THIS
WEBSITE
YOU KNOW
ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING
ABOUT?

ARE
YOU
STRUCK
WITH THE
SUDDEN
URGE TO
READ?



I HAVE TO ORDER
SOMETHING COOL.
THERE'S THIS-



...YES?



OH, SORRY...
I GOT
DISTRACTED
BY THE
INTERNET.
I'M ORDERING
A FEW CDS.

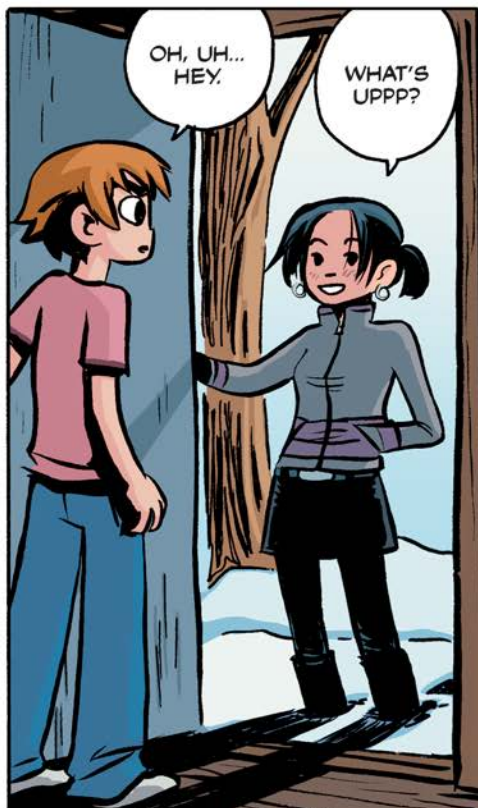
IS THIS
YOUR RIGHT
CREDIT
CARD INFO
ON HERE?





DEAR MR. PILGRIM. IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT WE WILL BE FIGHTING SOON. MY NAME IS MATTHEW PATEL, AND I'M A... HMM. THIS IS...







SO YOUR
SISTER GOES
TO U OF T?
WHAT ARE
YOUR
PARENTS
DOING IN
EUROPE?

I DUNNO.
GALLIVANTING.
SPENDING
EUROS ON
THINGS.



I'LL WALK TO
THE BUS STOP
MYSELF. YOU
LIVE THE
OPPOSITE WAY,
ANYWAY.

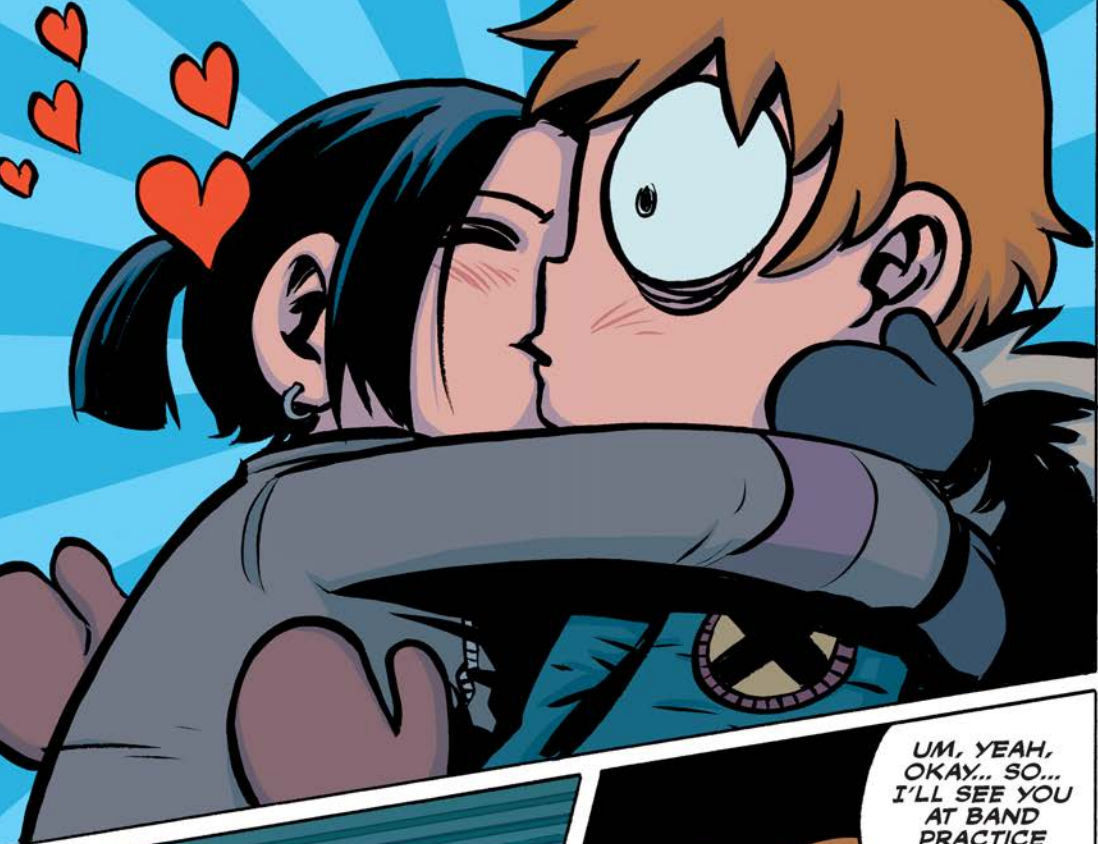
YOU
SURE?



YEAH.

UM,
OKAY...
THANKS.





UM, YEAH,
OKAY... SO...
I'LL SEE YOU
AT BAND
PRACTICE
TOMORROW,
KNIVES!



SUNDAY
EVENING

SO...

...I
GOT
US A
SHOW.

OH
YEAH?

WE
IN THE
INDUSTRY
CALL THEM
"GIGS,"
STEPHEN.

OH MY
GOSH
WHEN?!

IT'S ON WEDNESDAY
AT THE ROCKIT. THIS
GUY AT WORK WAS
LIKE "STEVE, DO YOU
KNOW ANYONE IN A
BAND?", AND I
WAS LIKE—

GREAT
STORY,
MAN.

WEDNESDAY
NIGHT?? I'LL HAVE
TO... I'M GONNA
HAVE TO PULL SOME
MAJOR TRICKS TO
GET OUT OF MY
HOUSE FOR
THIS.

DON'T SWEAT IT IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT. I MEAN, WE TOTALLY KIND OF SUCK. WE'RE NOT WORTH IT.



BUT SCOTT, SHE'S OUR BIGGEST FAN.



I'LL FIND A WAY TO COME. I'LL BRING SOME OF MY FRIENDS, TOO. THEY'D LOVE YOU GUYS!

COOL. YEAH, MAN, JUST SAY YOU'RE HAVING A STUDY GROUP OR SOMETHING.



SO WHO ARE WE PLAYING WITH?

CRASH AND THE BOYS.



AWWW, MAN? THAT ONE BAND WITH CRASH? AND THOSE BOYS? I HATE THEM!







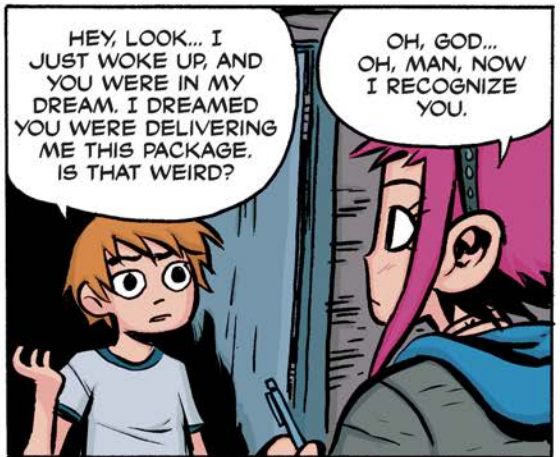


4

RAMONA COME CLOSER

DING
DONG







NO, NO,
IT'S... IT'S JUST,
LIKE, THIS REALLY
CONVENIENT SUBSPACE
HIGHWAY HAPPENS TO
GO THROUGH YOUR
HEAD. IT'S LIKE THREE
MILES IN FIFTEEN
SECONDS, AND THROUGH YOUR-

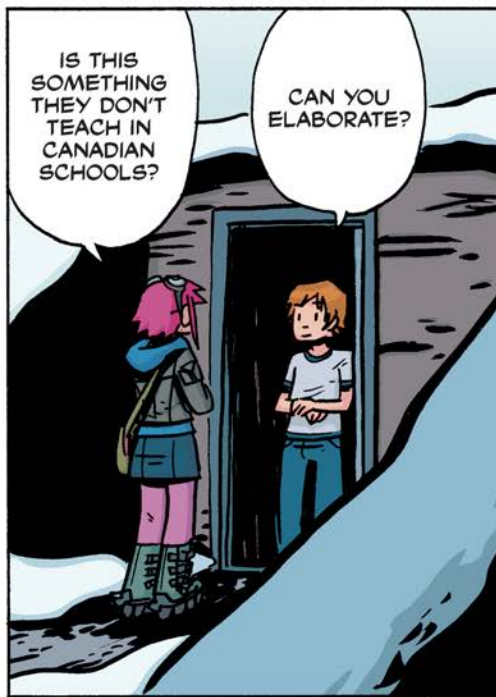


HOLD ON,
WHAT?
SUBSPACE?
HIGHWAYS?



YEAH...
WHAT?
HUH?

YOU'RE...
TALKING
CRAZY
TALK?



IS THIS
SOMETHING
THEY DON'T
TEACH IN
CANADIAN
SCHOOLS?

CAN YOU
ELABORATE?



IT'S LIKE...
RAPID
TRANSIT?
SUBSPACE
HIGHWAYS?



IS IT
LIKE IN
SUPER
MARIO
2?



UMMMMMM...
NO, IT ISN'T
REALLY LIKE
THAT AT ALL.

OH...
OKAY.



YOU GUYS
PROBABLY JUST
DON'T KNOW ABOUT
THEM IN CANADA.
I WAS WONDERING
WHY THEY WERE
ALWAYS EMPTY
UP HERE.

SO... UM,
I GUESS
YOU'RE
AMERICAN?



YEAH...?
WHY, AM
I COMING
OFF AS
RUDE, OR
SOMETHING
LIKE
THAT?

YOU DON'T
REMEMBER ME,
DO YOU? WE,
UM, WE MET AT
THAT PARTY
THE OTHER
DAY. RAMONA
FLOWERS,
RIGHT?



OH, MY
GOD... YOU
ASKED ME
ABOUT—
I JUST
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
CRAZY!
I'M SO
SORRY.



NO, IT'S
COOL.
THAT'S
OKAY. I
GET THAT
A LOT.

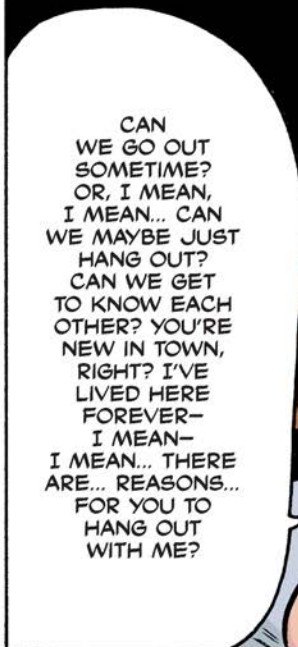


YOU
REALLY
HAVE TO
SIGN
FOR
THIS,
THOUGH.



BUT IF I SIGN FOR IT, YOU'LL LEAVE!

WELL, YEAH... I HAVE A JOB, SEE? I'M ON THE CLOCK?



CAN WE GO OUT SOMETIME? OR, I MEAN, I MEAN... CAN WE MAYBE JUST HANG OUT? CAN WE GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER? YOU'RE NEW IN TOWN, RIGHT? I'VE LIVED HERE FOREVER— I MEAN— I MEAN... THERE ARE... REASONS... FOR YOU TO HANG OUT WITH ME?

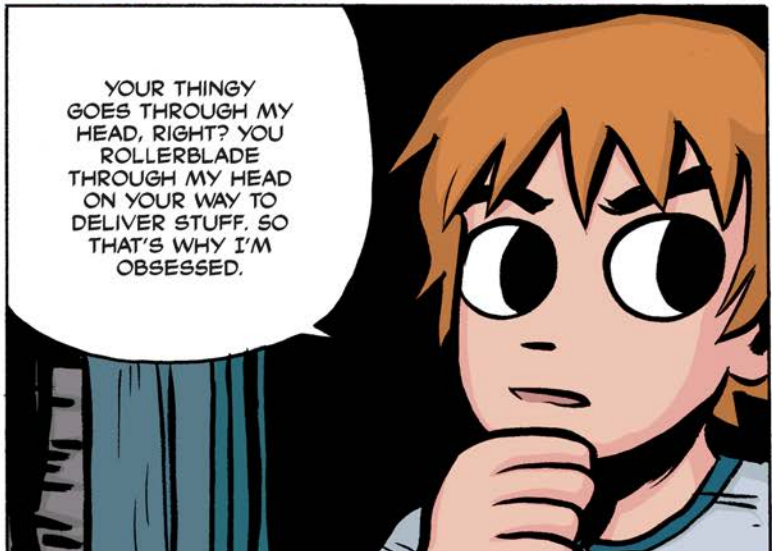


YOU'RE ALL OVER THE PLACE.



BUT I'M SO SINCERE!

SINCERELY LAME, MAYBE.



YOUR THING GOES THROUGH MY HEAD, RIGHT? YOU ROLLERBLADE THROUGH MY HEAD ON YOUR WAY TO DELIVER STUFF, SO THAT'S WHY I'M OBSESSED.



WAIT... LET'S PRETEND I DIDN'T SAY OBSESSED.



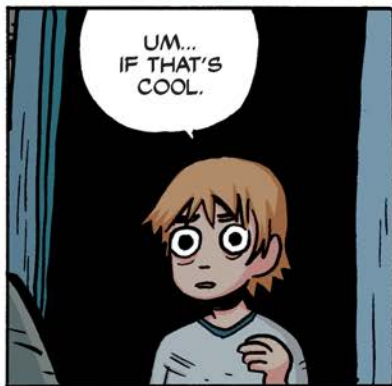
YOU'RE TOTALLY OBSESSED, AREN'T YOU? I NEED TO FIND A NEW ROUTE.



EITHER THAT, OR YOU NEED TO START HANGING OUT WITH ME.



YOU WANT ME TO HANG OUT WITH YOU?



UM... IF THAT'S COOL.



UHHH... HOW ABOUT TONIGHT? IS TONIGHT OKAY FOR YOU? CAN YOU PLEASE SIGN THIS AND TAKE YOUR STUPID CDS?



YES!! CERTAINLY!! RAMONA FLOWERS!! AWESOME!



SO YEAH... EIGHT O'CLOCK?

SO YEAH

WHY
ARE YOU
JUST
STANDING
THERE?

DUDE,
I'M
WAITIN'
ON
YOU!





IT'S GETTING NICE OUT, EH? I DIDN'T REALLY NEED THE PARKA.

WHAT'S WITH THE "X", ANYWAY?



HM?

ON YOUR COAT?



OH, THIS?

WELL, OBVIOUSLY, ONE OF US WENT TO PROFESSOR XAVIER'S SCHOOL FOR GIFTED YOUNGSTERS, AND ONE OF US DIDN'T.



OBVIOUSLY *ONE* OF US IS A TOTAL NERD. DID YOU MAKE THAT PATCH YOURSELF?

I DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER THAT!



SO HOW'D YOU END UP IN TORONTO?

WELL, I... I GOT THIS JOB AT AMAZON. AND THEY NEEDED SOMEONE HERE AND GIDEON ALWAYS SAYS TORONTO IS ONE OF THE GREAT CITIES, SO...



AND WHO'S GIDEON? BOY-FRIEND?

HE'S... HE'S A FRIEND. ANYWAY, WHAT DO YOU DO?



I'M BETWEEN JOBS.

BETWEEN WHAT AND WHAT?



WELL... MY LAST JOB IS A REALLY LONG STORY, FILLED WITH SIGHS. MAYBE WE CAN GET INTO IT IN A LATER VOLUME.



I DON'T EVEN WANT TO TALK ABOUT MY LAST JOB.

MAYBE VOLUME THREE FOR THAT ONE.



SUBSPACE
HIGHWAYS...
WHATEVER,
MAN.

IT WAS
TOTALLY AN
ACCIDENT! I
DIDN'T MEAN
TO GET YOU
OBSESSED!



IT'S... I
HAVEN'T BEEN
OBSESSED
IN SO LONG,
IT'S REALLY
WEIRD.



WELL,
YOU
SLEEP
WITH A
GUY,
RIGHT?

UM.



I WAS JUST
GUESSING FROM
HAVING SEEN
YOUR APART-
MENT, BUT YOU
TOTALLY DO!
AHAHAHAHA!



IT'S... WE...
WE'RE JUST
POOR! WE
CAN'T AFFORD
TWO BEDS!
OR... OR A
BIGGER
PLACE!

WE'RE
NOT GAY!
WAIT... NO...
WALLACE
IS PRETTY
GAY. BUT
I'M—

DUDE,
RELAX,
MAN.

HEE
HEE.

I
BELIEVE
YOU.



I FEEL SO STUPID!

AW, YOU'RE PROBABLY NOT THAT STUPID.



I'M... MOSTLY STUPID.



WELL, YOU'RE DEFINITELY STUPID IF YOU WANT TO GO OUT WITH ME.



WAIT, WHAT? NO. I WAS VERY **CLEVER** TO CONVINCE YOU TO COME OUT, THOUGH.

YEAH, I SHOULD HAVE CHECKED THE WEATHER.

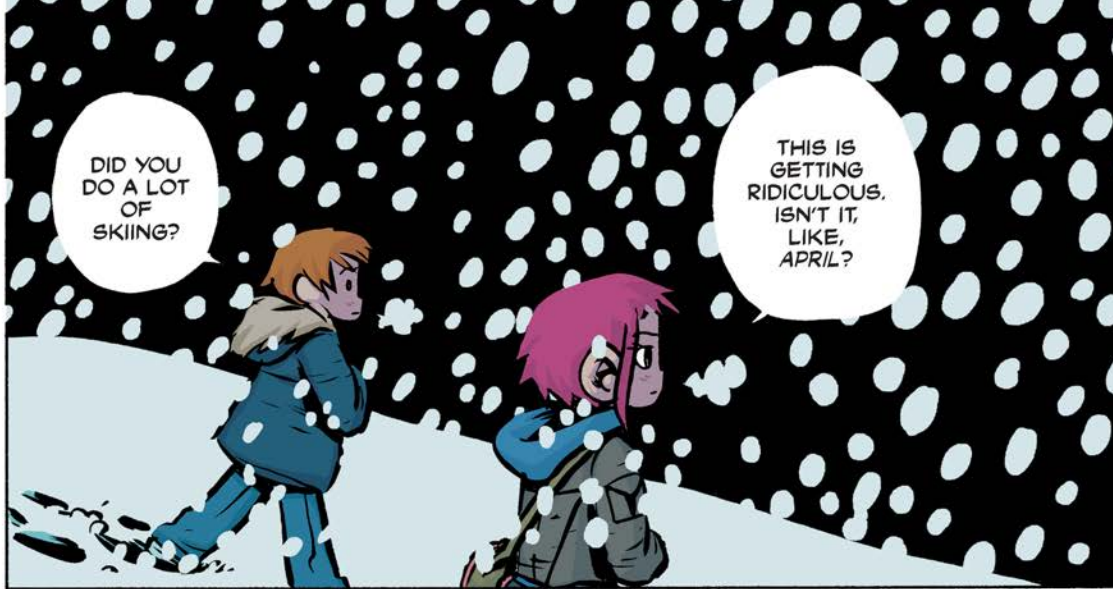


WAS IT THIS COLD WHEN WE LEFT?

ZIP

I THINK IT'S STARTING TO SNOW.





DID YOU DO A LOT OF SKIING?

THIS IS GETTING RIDICULOUS. ISN'T IT, LIKE, APRIL?



ICE SKATING, THOUGH, RIGHT? YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD ON ROLLER-BLADES.

OH YEAH, FOR SURE. ICE SKATING. UH-HUH. I DID FIGURE SKATING WHEN I WAS FOUR.



THAT'S HOT. I PLAYED HOCKEY IN GRADES ONE AND TWO.

YOU GUYS ALL PLAY HOCKEY UP HERE, THOUGH, RIGHT?

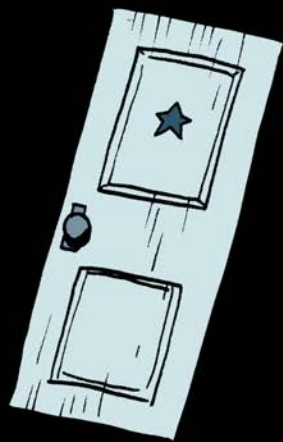


I... I... I CAN'T SEE YOU. I'M BLIND. HELP ME.

I KNOW THERE'S A THINGY UP HERE SOMEWHERE...







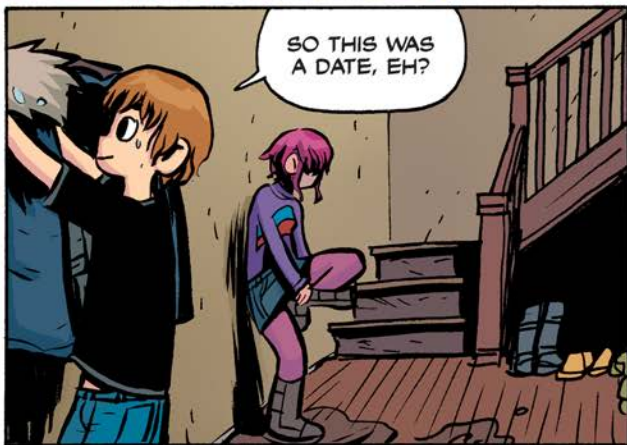


HURRY!



THIS WHOLE THING IS AN UNMITIGATED DISASTER!

OH, COME ON. I THINK "ACT OF GOD" IS A DECENT EXCUSE FOR A LOUSY DATE.



SO THIS WAS A DATE, EH?



DID I SAY DATE? SLIP OF THE TONGUE.



ANYWAY... THE NIGHT'S NOT OVER YET.

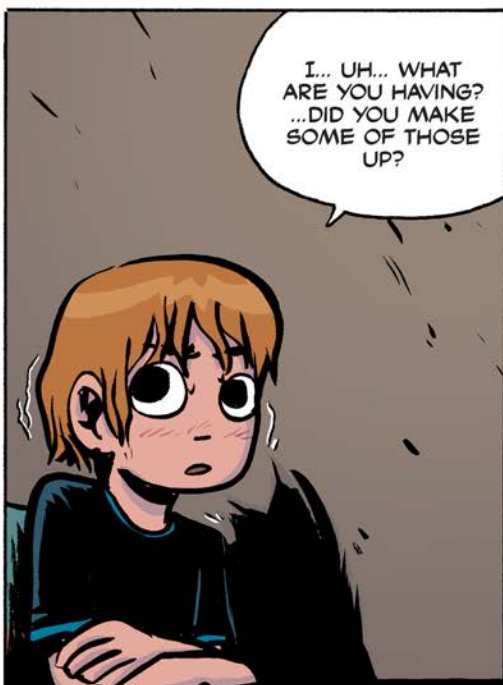


WHAT KIND OF TEA DO YOU WANT?

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE KIND OF TEA? ...WHAT DO YOU HAVE?



LET'S SEE...
BLUEBERRY, RASPBERRY,
GINSENG, SLEEPYTIME, GREEN
TEA, GREEN TEA WITH LEMON,
GREEN TEA WITH LEMON AND
HONEY, LIVER DISASTER, GINGER
WITH HONEY, GINGER WITHOUT
HONEY, VANILLA ALMOND, WHITE
TRUFFLE COCONUT, CHAMOMILE,
BLUEBERRY CHAMOMILE, DECAF
VANILLA WALNUT, CONSTANT
COMMENT, AND
EARL GREY.

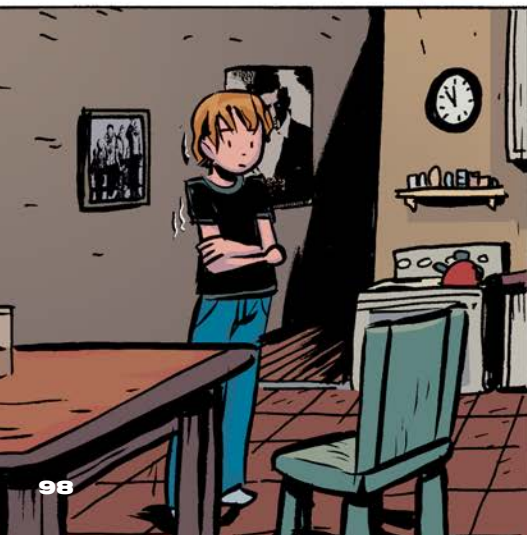


I... UH... WHAT
ARE YOU HAVING?
...DID YOU MAKE
SOME OF THOSE
UP?



I THINK
I'LL HAVE
SLEEPY-
TIME.

THAT
SOUNDS
GOOD
TO ME.





DUDE! I'M CHANGING.

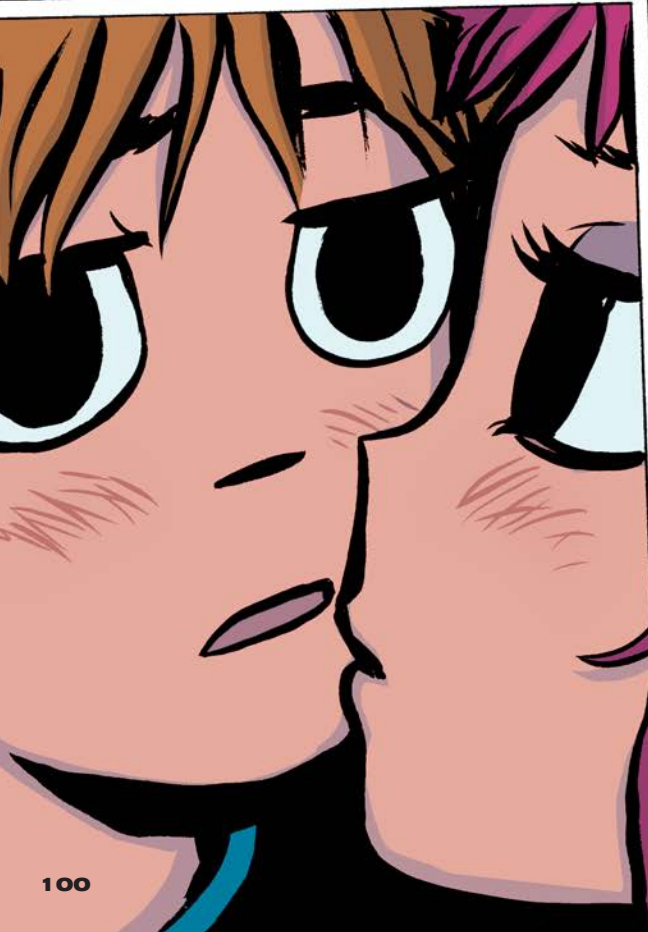
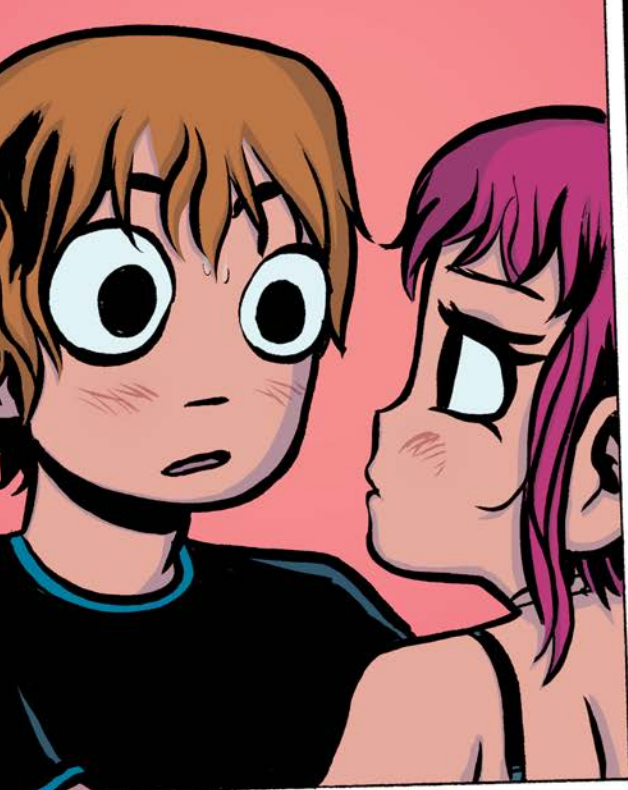
AAA! SORRY!
I'M JUST...
COLD!

HERE,
DOES
THIS
HELP?

THAT...
THAT'S
VERY
WARM.
WHAT IS
THAT?

...OH.

I'M
COLD,
TOO.



**NICE ONE, SCOTT!
NOW TURN THE PAGE.**





WERE YOU...

WERE YOU JUST GOING TO BRING THE BLANKET FROM YOUR BED?



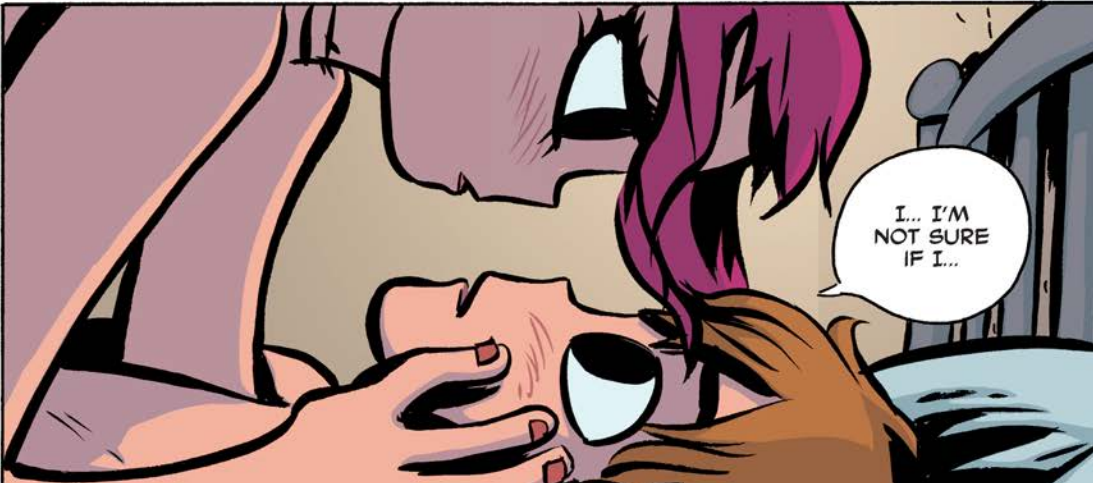
I GUESS...

MAYBE... MAYBE WE SHOULD BOTH GET UNDER IT... SINCE WE'RE SO COLD.



WELL... WHAT ABOUT OUR TEA?

WHAT ABOUT IT?





I CHANGED MY MIND.

CHANGED IT TO WHAT?



I DON'T WANT TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU, PILGRIM. NOT RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S OKAY. THAT'S COOL.

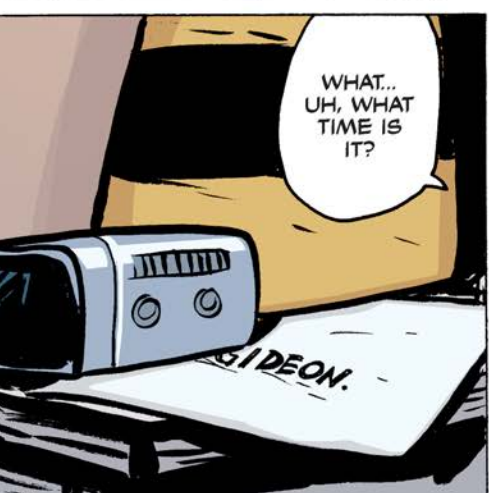
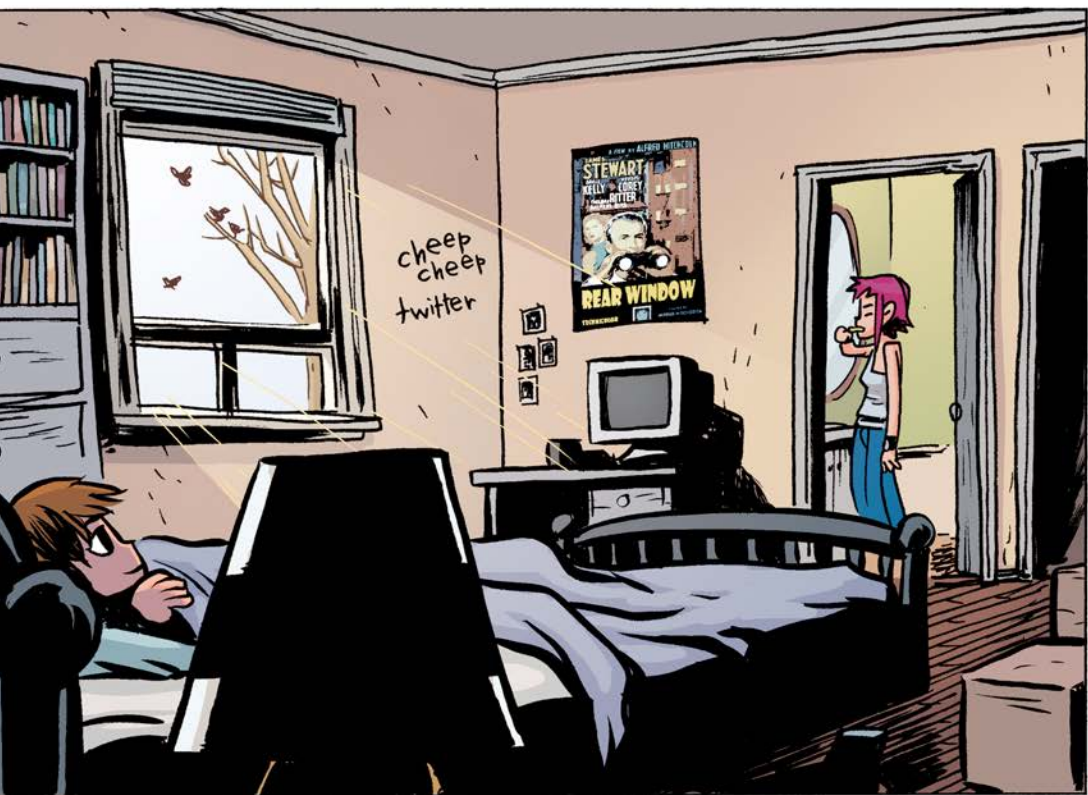


IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA SEND YOU HOME IN THE SNOWSTORM OR ANYTHING. YOU CAN SLEEP IN MY BED.

AND I RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT THE SEX LATER.

THIS IS COOL, JUST THIS. I DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH... YOU KNOW, THIS.







I WISH I COULD TURN INTO A MORPHING BALL AND ROLL TO THE BATHROOM FROM HERE, INSTEAD OF HAVING TO STAND UP.

I USED TO KNOW A GUY WHO COULD DO THAT. HE SAID IT WASN'T THAT GREAT.

CLICK



YOU'RE RUINING ALL MY ILLUSIONS!



GET UP LIKE A NORMAL PERSON, ANYWAY.

I HAVE TO WORK, SO YOU HAVE TO LEAVE.



DELIVERY GIRL...

YEAH. COME ON, GET UP. I WANT TO MAKE THE BED.



YOU KNOW, I THINK MAYBE IT WAS WEIRD THAT YOU ACTUALLY DELIVERED MY CDS. EVEN THOUGH I ONLY ORDERED THEM TO SEE YOU.

IT'S NOT THAT WEIRD. I'M THE ONLY AMAZON DELIVERY GIRL IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.



ARE YOU SERIOUS? THEY ONLY NEED ONE?



WELL, WHEN THE ONE THEY GOT IS *THIS* GOOD...



HEY, CAN THIS NOT BE A ONE-NIGHT STAND? I MEAN, FOR ONE THING, I DIDN'T EVEN GET ANY.

...THAT WAS A JOKE.

WHAT DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?

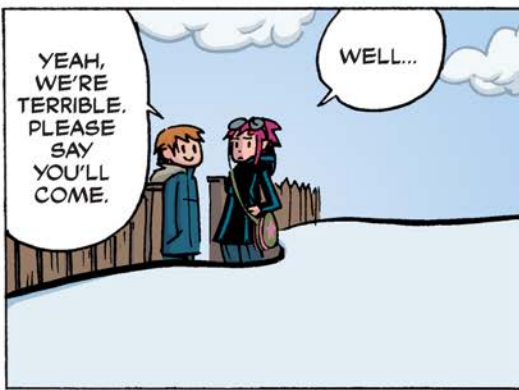


UMM...

OH! MY BAND HAS A SHOW ON WEDNESDAY, AT THE ROCKIT, 9 PM.



YOU HAVE A BAND.



YEAH, WE'RE TERRIBLE. PLEASE SAY YOU'LL COME.

WELL...



YEAH, OKAY 9 PM, TOMORROW. I'LL BE THERE.

HSSSSSSSS



EVENTUALLY...



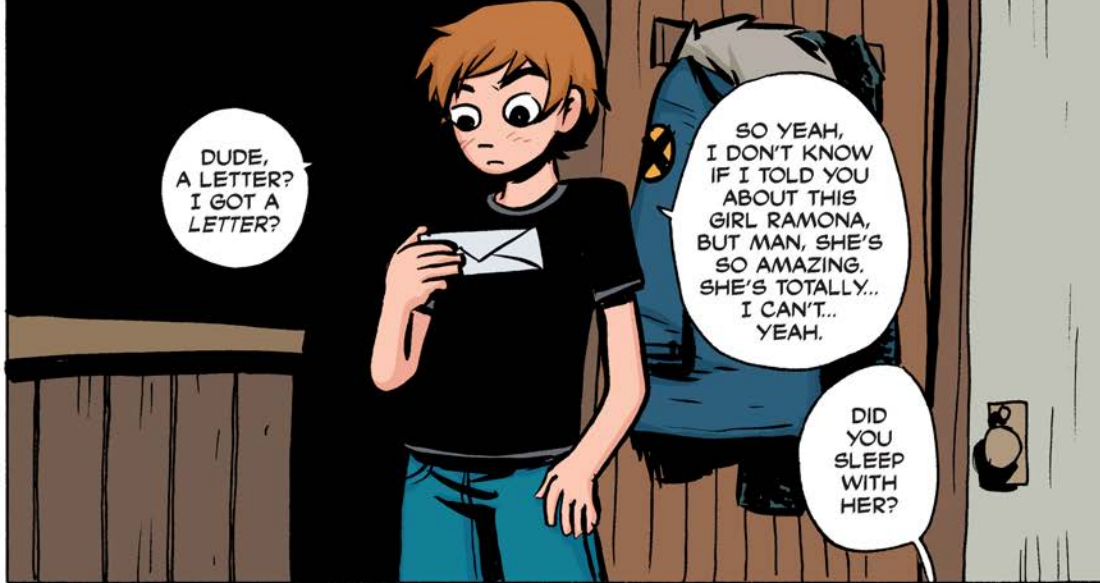
CLOSE THE
DAMN
DOOR! IT'S
FREEZING!



IT
TOOK ME
LIKE FIVE
HOURS TO
GET HERE
FROM
DUNDAS!

YEAH,
YOUR
MOTHER
AND I HAVE
BEEN
WORRIED
SICK.

THERE'S
A LETTER
FOR YOU
ON THE
BAR.



DUDE,
A LETTER?
I GOT A
LETTER?

SO YEAH,
I DON'T KNOW
IF I TOLD YOU
ABOUT THIS
GIRL RAMONA,
BUT MAN, SHE'S
SO AMAZING.
SHE'S TOTALLY...
I CAN'T...
YEAH.

DID
YOU
SLEEP
WITH
HER?



I... YES. I
SLEPT WITH
HER. IN HER
BED.



YOU
SHOULD
BREAK UP
WITH YOUR
FAKE HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRLFRIEND,
SCOTT.

WELL, I
DIDN'T
HAVE
SEX
WITH HER,
WALLACE.

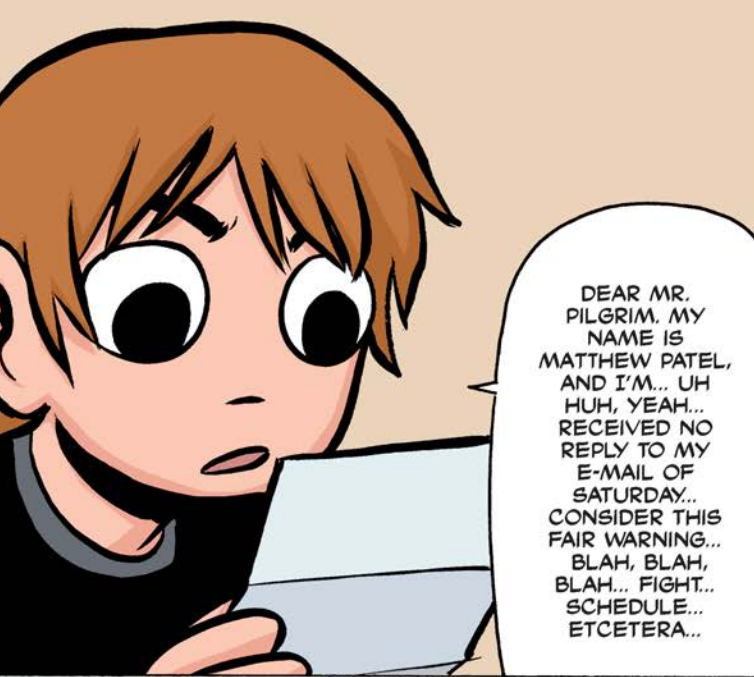


YOU SHOULD
BREAK UP
WITH YOUR
FAKE HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRLFRIEND,
SCOTT.



...YEAH,
I KNOW.

WHO'S
THE
LETTER
FROM?



DEAR MR. PILGRIM. MY NAME IS MATTHEW PATEL, AND I'M... UH HUH, YEAH... RECEIVED NO REPLY TO MY E-MAIL OF SATURDAY... CONSIDER THIS FAIR WARNING... BLAH, BLAH, BLAH... FIGHT... SCHEDULE... ETCETERA...



SO, THE USUAL?



I GUESS I'M JUST NOT THAT INTERESTED IN WHATEVER THIS GENTLEMAN IS SELLING.



SLUMP



OH, HEY, WE HAVE A SHOW TOMORROW. AT THE ROCKIT. YOU SHOULD COME.



I'LL COME IF YOU BREAK UP WITH KNIVES TONIGHT. THAT POOR MISGUIDED ANGEL.

**AAAAAAAAAAAAAGGGRRRB-
BGGBBGGLALAAA!!!**



5

EVERYTHING'S
STARTING TO GET
COMPLICATED





UH...
HEY!

HEY!



DO YOU LIKE
IT? I WANTED
TO LOOK GOOD
FOR THE
SHOW!



I... YES! IT LOOKS
GREAT! YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'RE...
READY TO... HIT
THE SCENE?



THANKS!



UM,
LISTEN... I
THINK WE
SHOULD...

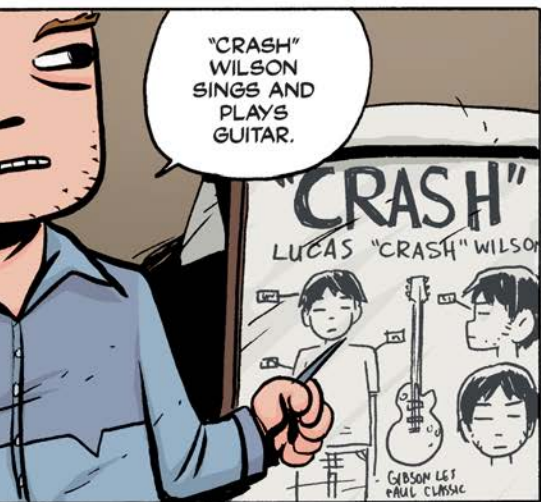


...I THINK...
I...
SHOULD
GO SET
UP?



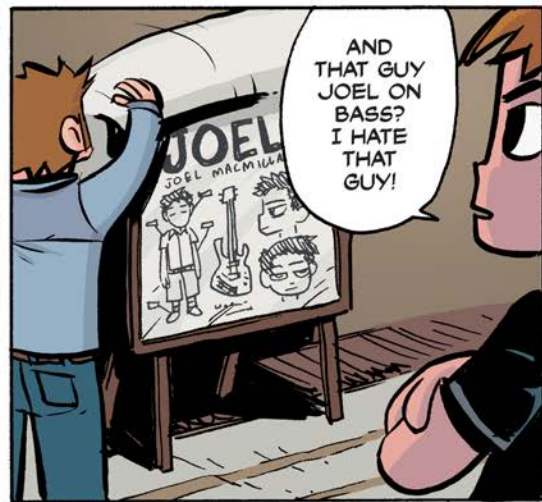
OKAY, LISTEN UP. AS YOU KNOW, WE'RE PLAYING A SHOW TOMORROW WITH CRASH AND THE BOYS.

BOOOO.



"CRASH" WILSON SINGS AND PLAYS GUITAR.

CRASH
LUCAS "CRASH" WILSON
GIBSON LES PAUL CLASSIC



AND THAT GUY JOEL ON BASS? I HATE THAT GUY!

JOEL
JOEL MACMILLAN



DON'T YOU HATE ALL BASS PLAYERS?

WELL, I DON'T HATE MYSELF, KIM...



I FOUND OUT THEY GOT A NEW DRUMMER RECENTLY. THEIR OLD GUY WENT INSANE AND LAPPED INTO A COMA OR SOMETHING.

?

SO WHO'S THE NEW GUY?

IT'S A...

GIRL.

THEY GOT A GIRL DRUMMER???

SHE'S THEIR SECRET WEAPON! THEY CALL HER TRASHA, AND SHE'S EIGHT YEARS OLD.

I HEAR THEY DISCOVERED HER AT THE PACIFIC MALL ARCADE, PLAYING **DRUM-MANIA**. SHE HAS SO MUCH A.D.D., IT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY.

"TRASHA"
AKA TRISHA HA, AGE 8



I HATE HER SO MUCH.

WELL, LET'S DO IT! LET'S PRACTICE! WE'VE GOT 24 HOURS!

24 HRS



LATER

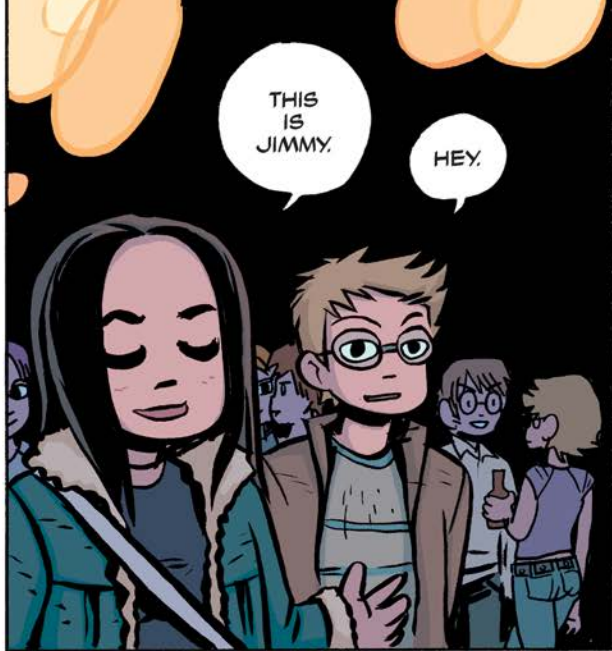


HEY, I
RAN INTO
YOUR SISTER
OUTSIDE.
OTHER SCOTT
COULDN'T
MAKE IT.

YOU
CAN HANG
OUT WITH
US,
WALLACE!



SO WHO'S YOUR FRIEND, STACE?



THIS IS JIMMY.

HEY.



THIS IS MY BROTHER'S BOY-CRAZY ROOMMATE, WALLACE.

I'D RESENT THAT IF IT WEREN'T SO TRUE.



NICE TO MEET YOU!

UH... YEAH!



THANKS FOR COMING, STACE! YOU'RE MY ONLY FRIEND.



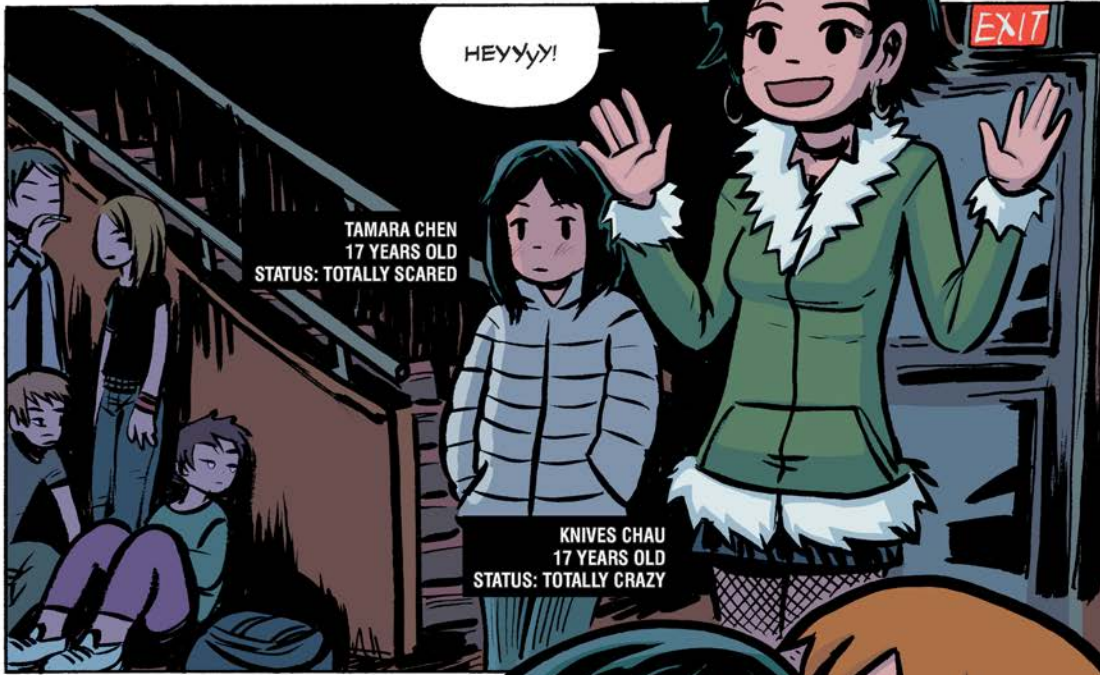
AWWWW, I'M ALWAYS THERE FOR MY LITTLE BROTHER'S CRAPPY BAND'S SHOWS, YOU KNOW THAT!



DIDN'T YOU SAY HE WAS LIKE, FOUR YEARS OLDER THAN YOU?



YES...



HEYYYY!

TAMARA CHEN
17 YEARS OLD
STATUS: TOTALLY SCARED

KNIVES CHAU
17 YEARS OLD
STATUS: TOTALLY CRAZY



POW



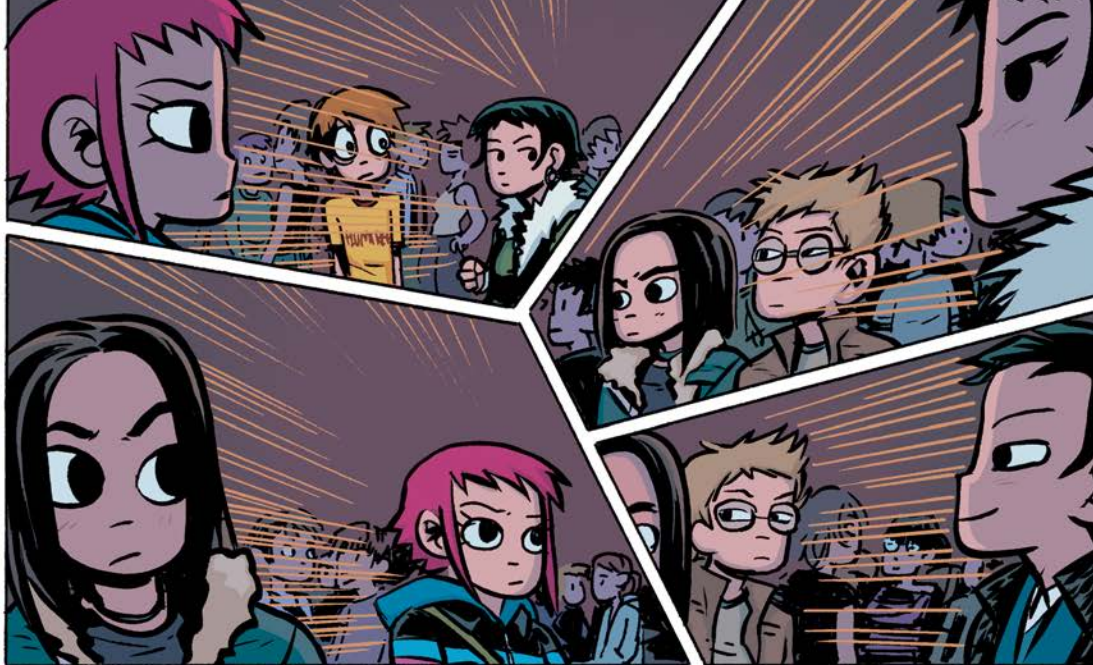
UH...
HEY!

EVERYONE,
THIS IS-



RAMONA V. FLOWERS
AGE UNKNOWN
STATUS: SCOTT IS AN IDIOT







GOOD
EVENING, I
AM CRASH,
AND THESE
ARE THE
BOYS.



IS THAT
GIRL
A BOY,
TOO?



YES!!



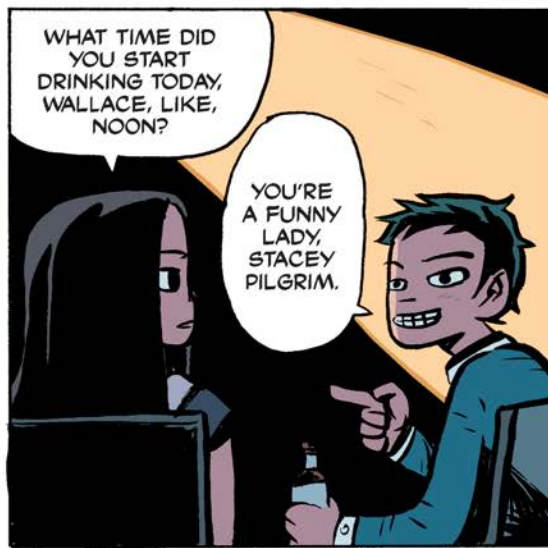
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK, JIMMY?

DO THEY ROCK OR SUCK?

THEY... THEY HAVEN'T STARTED PLAYING YET.



THAT WAS A TEST, JIMMY, AND YOU PASSED.



WHAT TIME DID YOU START DRINKING TODAY, WALLACE, LIKE, NOON?

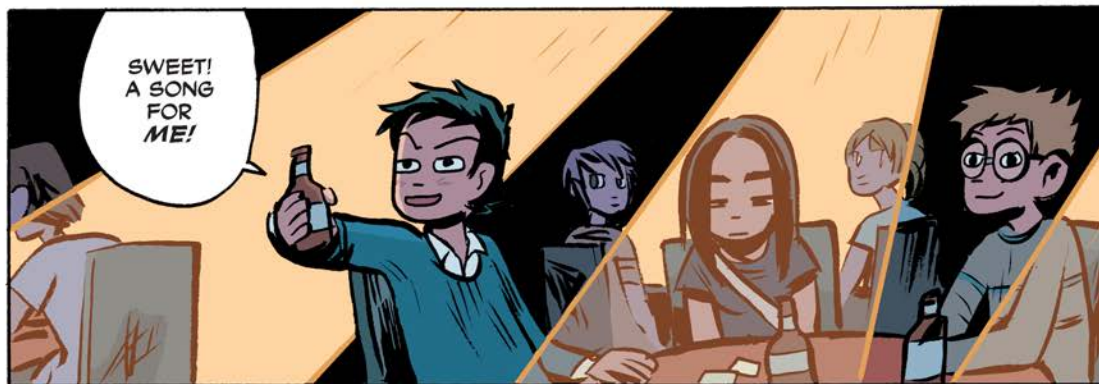
YOU'RE A FUNNY LADY, STACEY PILGRIM.



THIS IS CALLED "I AM SO SAD. I AM SO VERY VERY SAD," AND IT GOES A LITTLE SOMETHING LIKE THIS.

**ONE
TWO
THREE
FOUR!**







THIS IS A TRAVESTY.

WELL, KNIVES AND NEIL ARE OUT THERE.

MAYBE THEY'LL SPREAD RUMOURS ABOUT HOW WE ROCK, AND THEN PEOPLE WILL THINK WE ROCK!



DID YOU NOTICE HOW KNIVES STARTED DRESSING LIKE ME?



WHAT? NO, REALLY?



SHE'S, LIKE, YOU KNOW, BITING MY STYLE?

SHE STARTED WEARING THAT JACKET, AND THEN THE SKIRTS—

THIS SONG IS CALLED "ZOG"! ONE TWO THREE FOUR!!!



THEY'RE A MENACE TO SOCIETY.



THIS SONG IS CALLED "LAST SONG KILLS AUDIENCE," AND IT'LL BE OUR LAST SONG TONIGHT..

...FOR YOU ALL!! EYAAHA-HAHAHAA!! ONE TWO THREE FOUR!!!

PEACE.



ARE THEY SERIOUS?

THEY CAN'T BE SERIOUS.



NAH, I'VE SEEN THEM DO THIS BEFORE. IT ACTUALLY JUST KNOCKS MOST OF THE AUDIENCE UNCONSCIOUS FOR LIKE 20-TO-30 MINUTES.

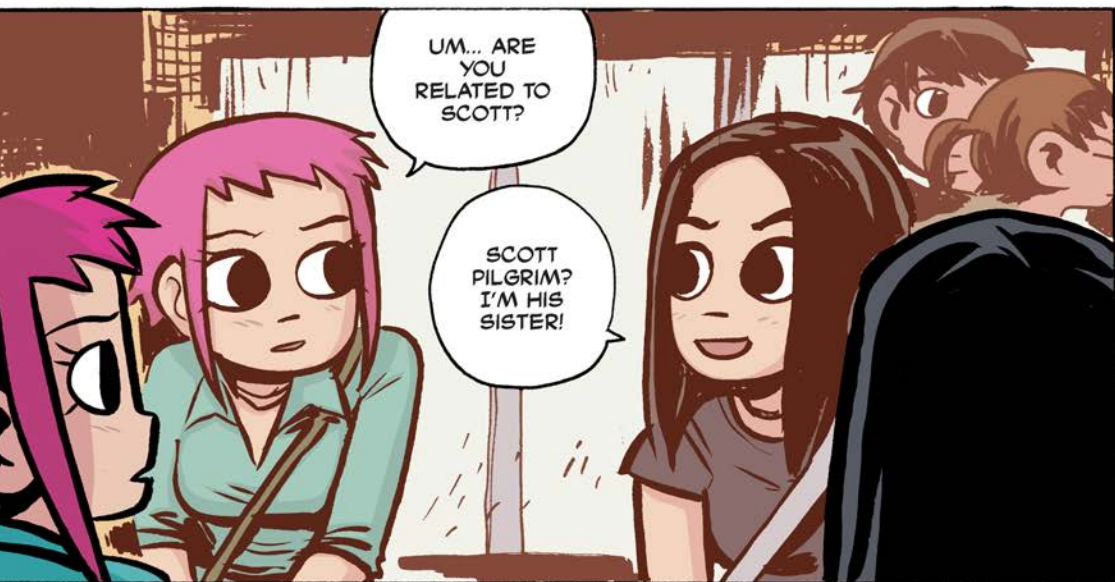


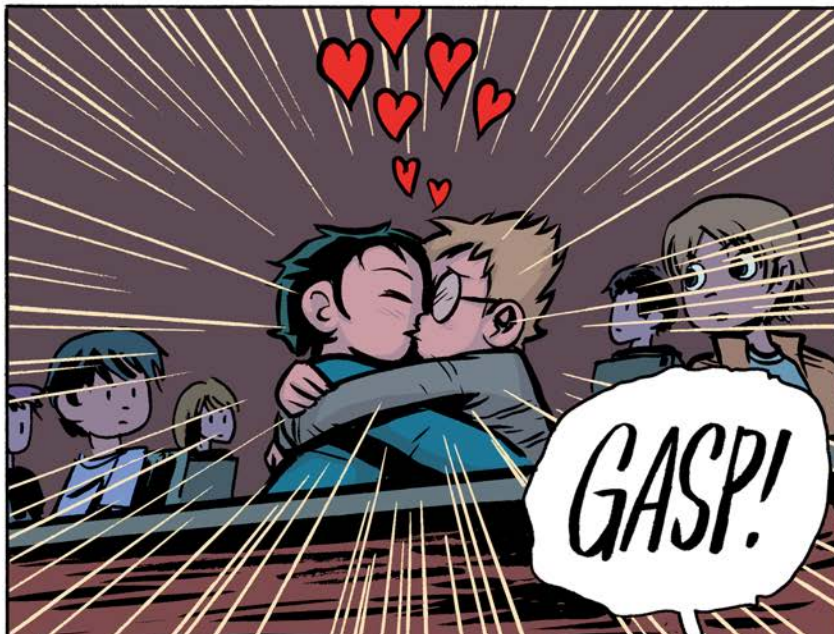
WE HAVE TO PLAY NEXT!!



**BABY
I WAS
BORN TO
DESTROY
YOU!!!**













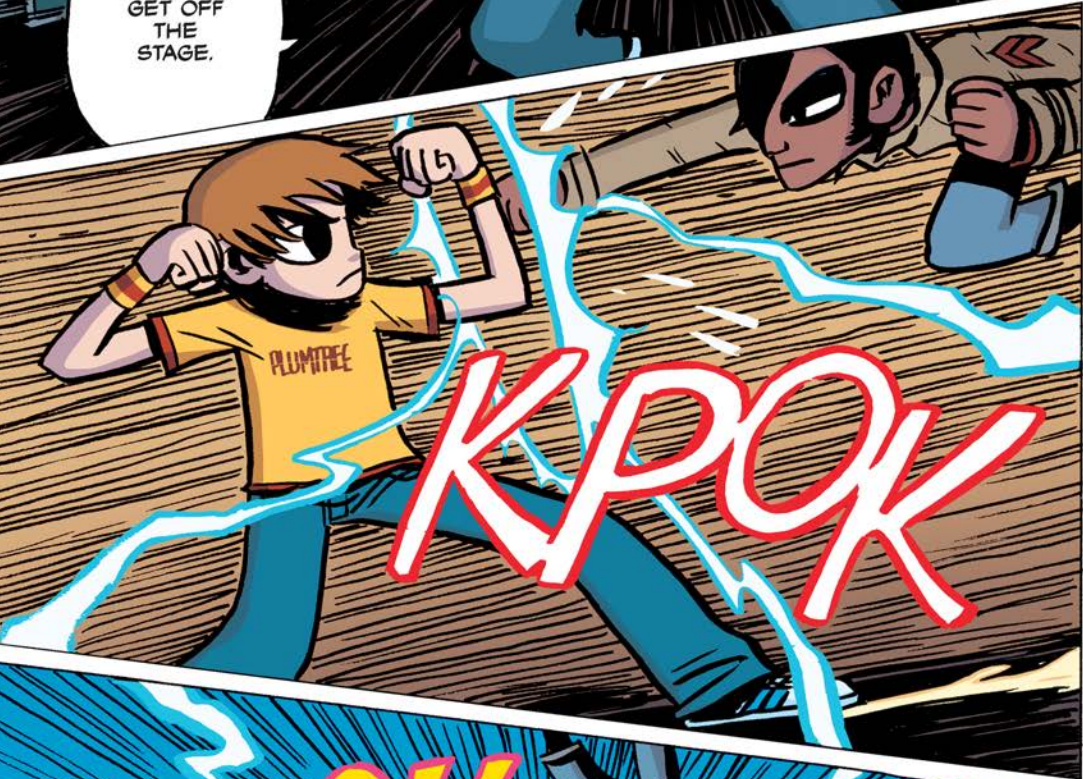


MR.
PILGRIM!
IT IS I,
MATTHEW
PATEL!

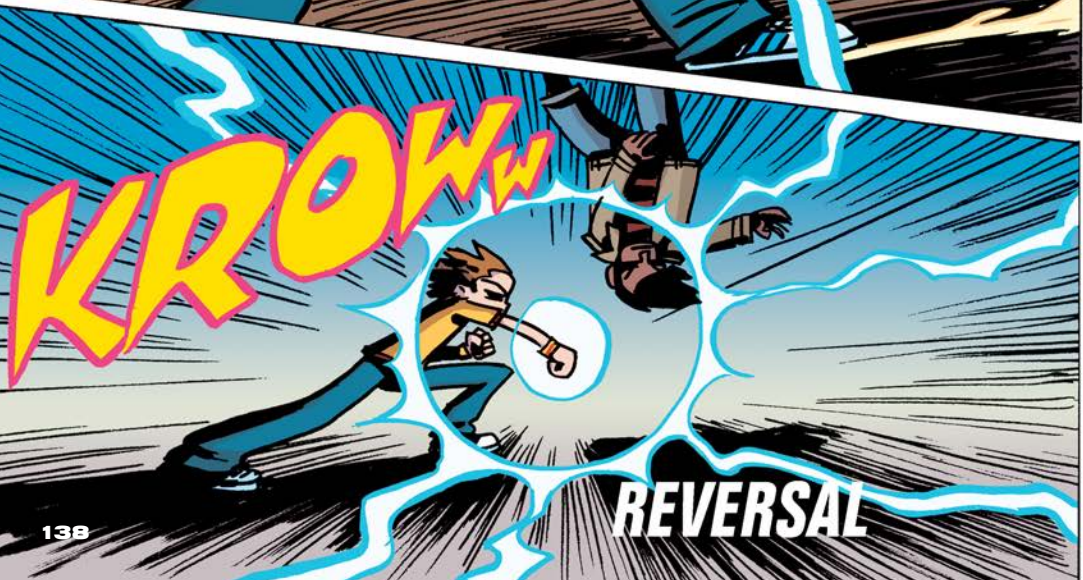
CONSIDER
OUR
FIGHT...
BEGUN!!!



GUYS,
GET OFF
THE
STAGE.



KPOK



KROWW

REVERSAL



ALRIGHT...
ALRIGHT...

SCOTT!



HURK!!

SWOK

WHAT?

WATCH
OUT! IT'S
THAT ONE
GUY!

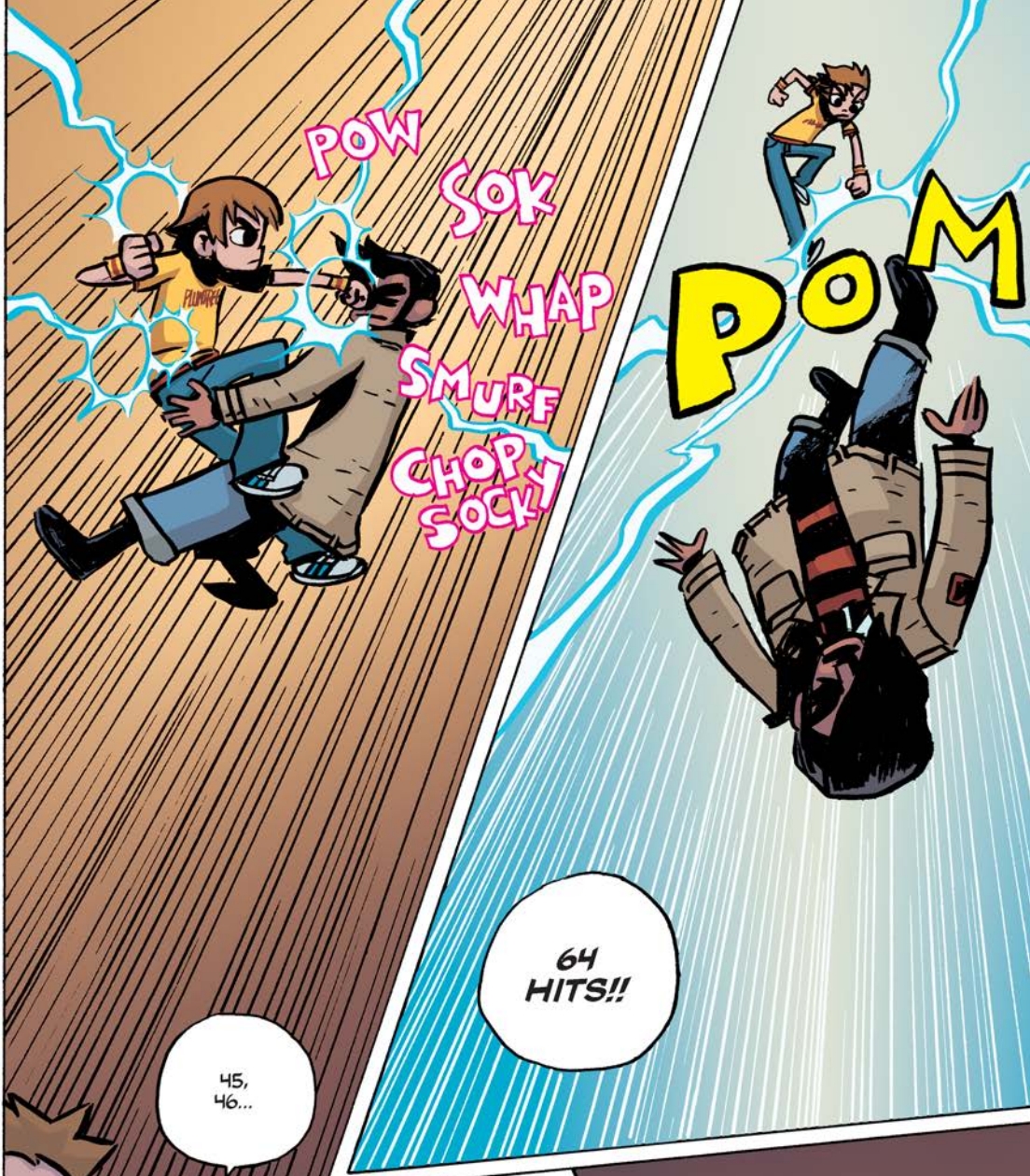
OK,
THANK
YOU,
WALLACE!



KRAK

HE'S GOING FOR THE AIR JUGGLE!

THIS GUY IS SUCH TOAST. DOESN'T HE KNOW THAT SCOTT'S THE BEST FIGHTER IN THE PROVINCE?



45,
46...

64
HITS!!

THAT'S
A NEW
PERSONAL
BEST,
SCOTT!



SO,
PILGRIM,
YOU'RE AS
GOOD AS
THEY
SAY.

WHO
THE HELL
ARE YOU,
ANYWAY?

MY NAME IS
MATTHEW PATEL...
AND I'M
RAMONA'S
FIRST EVIL
EX-BOYFRIEND.

MASS TEEN
FAINTING

the
Amplies

CHOK

YOU'RE FIGHTING ME BECAUSE OF RAMONA?

YES! DIDN'T YOU GET MY E-MAIL AND LETTER EXPLAINING THE SITUATION?

I... SKIMMED THEM...?

I DELIVERED THAT LETTER PERSONALLY, IN THE MIDDLE OF A BLIZZARD! **YOU'LL PAY!!**

WHAT'S WITH YOUR OUTFIT, ANYWAY? ARE YOU A PIRATE?

P...PIRATES ARE IN THIS YEAR!!



SO WHEN DID YOU DATE RAMONA?

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT!!

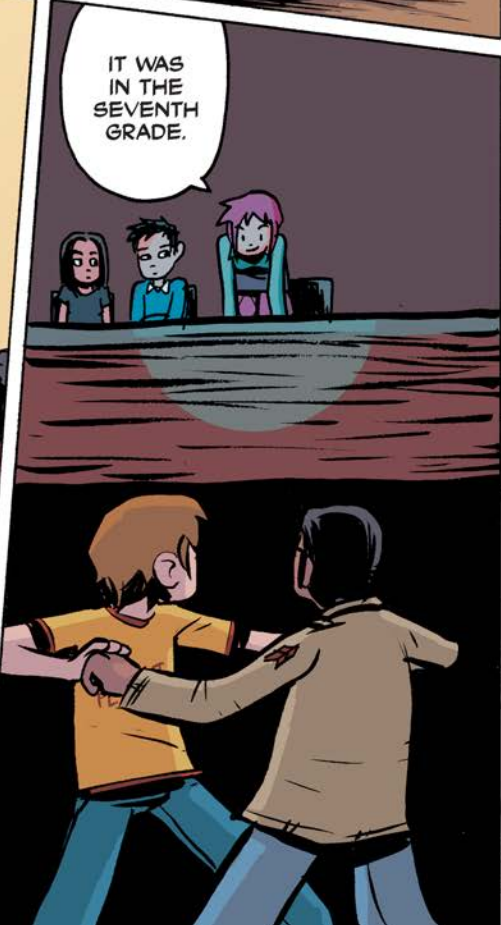
DODGE



C'MON, MAN, DISH! GOT ANY EMBARRASSING STORIES?

y... YOUR MOM IS AN EMBARRASSING STORY!

BLOCK



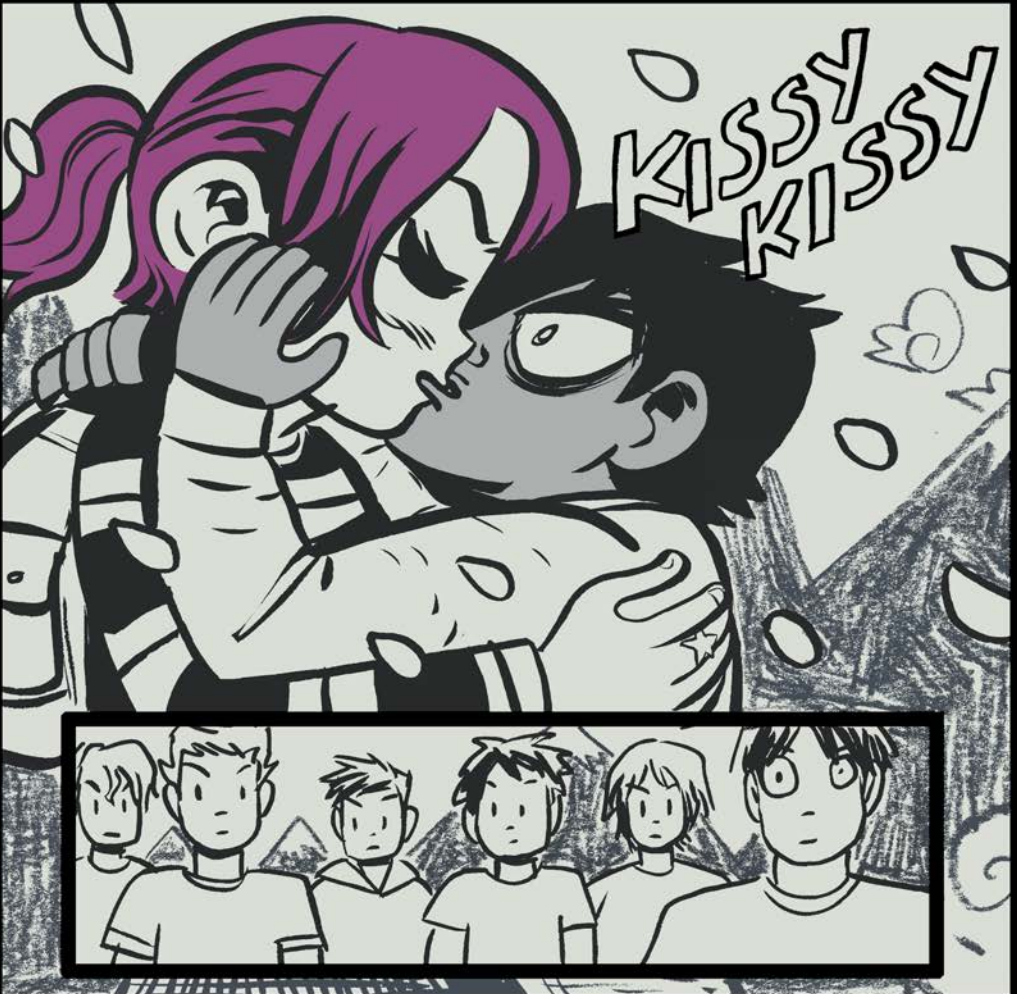
IT WAS IN THE SEVENTH GRADE.

IT WAS FOOTBALL SEASON, AND THE LITTLE JOCKS WERE IN HIGH GEAR. FOR SOME REASON THEY ALL WANTED ME...





MATTHEW PATEL WAS THE ONLY NON-WHITE, NON-JOCK KID IN SCHOOL. PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE FOR MILES AROUND, OR IN THE ENTIRE STATE, FOR ALL I KNOW. SO, OF COURSE...





WE JOINED FORCES AND TOOK 'EM ALL OUT. WE WERE ONE HELL OF A TEAM. NOTHING COULD BEAT MATTHEW'S MYSTICAL POWERS COMBINED WITH MY BRUTE STRENGTH.



NOTHING BUT PRE-ADOLESCENT CAPRICIOUSNESS.



A character with short, spiky pink hair is leaning over a wooden railing. They are wearing a teal long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans with a brown belt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

WE ONLY
KISSED THE
ONCE, AND WE
WERE QUIT
AFTER SOME-
THING LIKE A
WEEK AND A
HALF.

HE DIDN'T
GET **REALLY**
EVIL UNTIL
HIGH SCHOOL,
AND BY THAT
TIME HE'D
MOVED FAR,
FAR AWAY.

Two characters are in a room. On the left, a character with brown hair and a yellow t-shirt with 'PUNK' on it looks concerned. On the right, a character with black hair, a tan jacket, and a striped shirt looks angry and is pointing upwards. In the background, there is a guitar, a keyboard, and a speaker.

DUDE,
WAIT...
MYSTICAL
POWERS?

Y-YOU'LL
PAY FOR
THIS,
FLOWERS!!



IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT ME

PAF



YOU'RE NOT THE BRIGHTEST





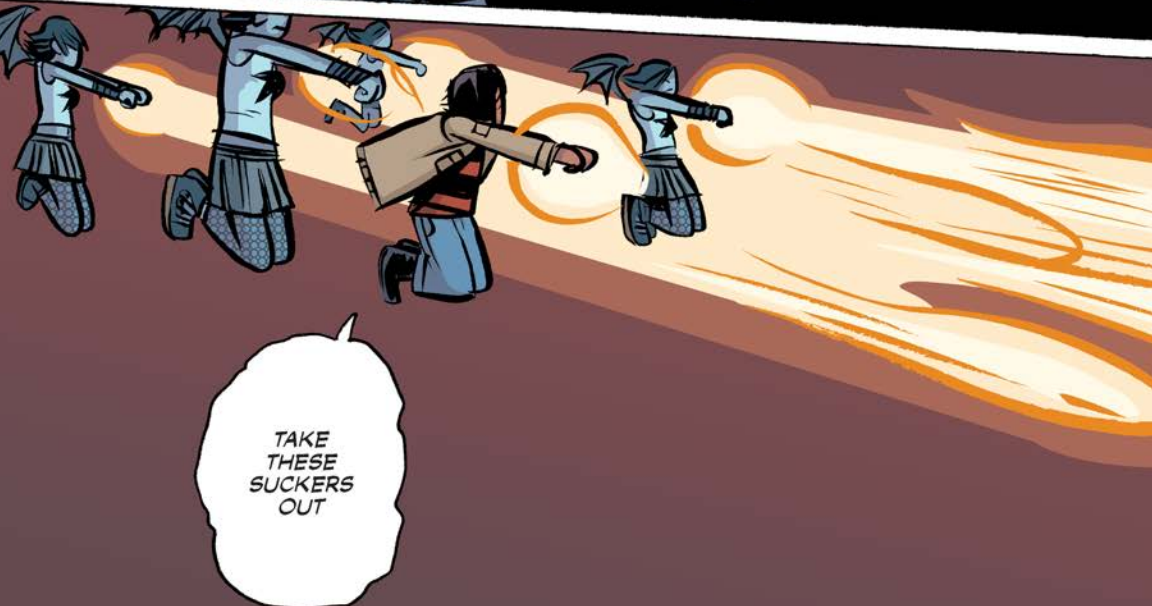
YOU
WON'T
KNOW
WHAT HIT
YOU IN THE
SLIGHTEST!

PLUMTREE

sloan



FIRE-
BALLS,
GIRLS



TAKE
THESE
SUCKERS
OUT



LET ME
TELL YOU
WHAT IT'S
ALL ABOUT



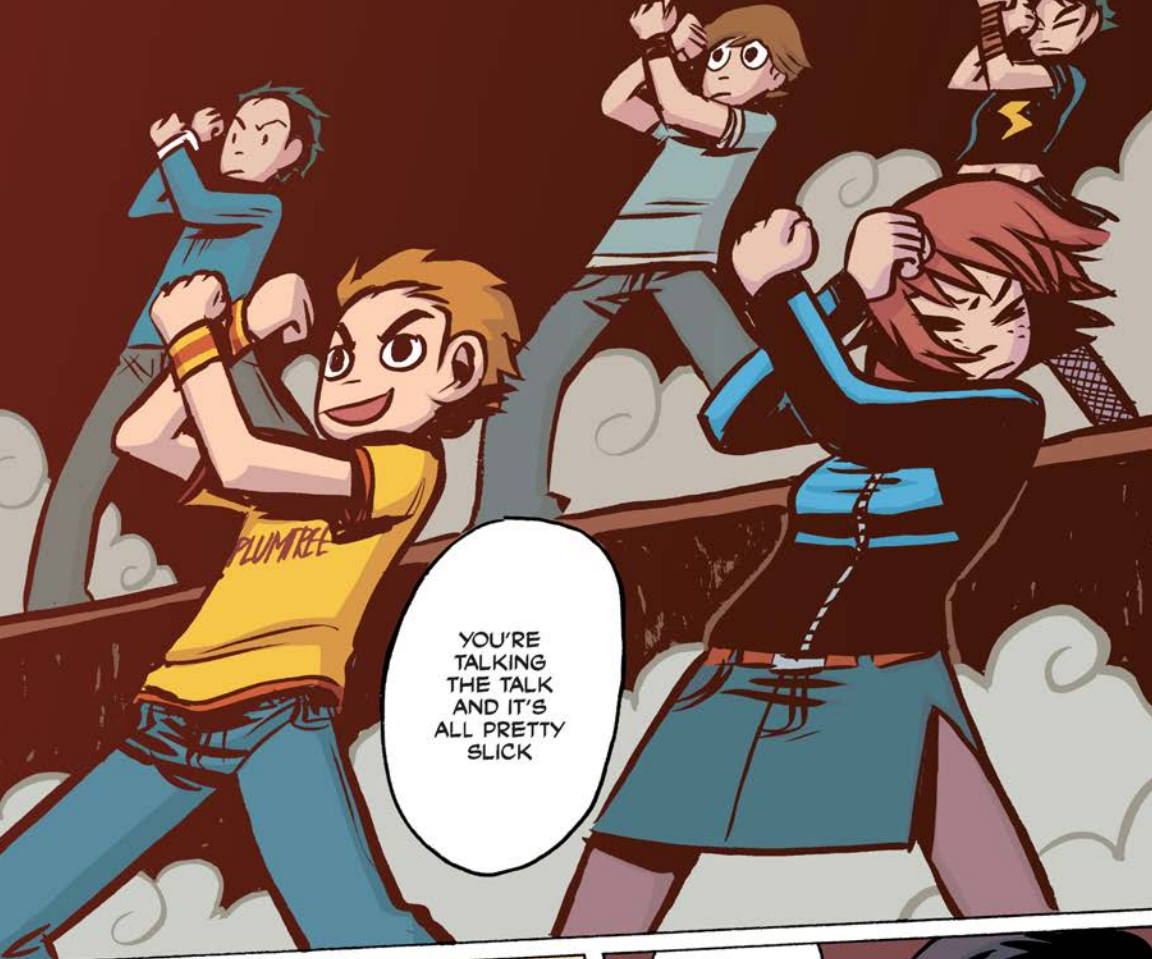


YOU AND
YOUR FIRE-
BALLS AND
YOUR DEMON
HIPSTER
CHICKS



YOU THINK
YOU'RE
SO GREAT,
BUT
YOU'RE
MISSING
THE POINT

YOU
GOTTA
HAVE
FRIENDSHIP
AND
COURAGE
AND WHAT-
EVER!



YOU'RE TALKING THE TALK AND IT'S ALL PRETTY SLICK



SHUT UP!





HOW
CAN
THIS
BE?!



OPEN
YOUR
EYES
UP...



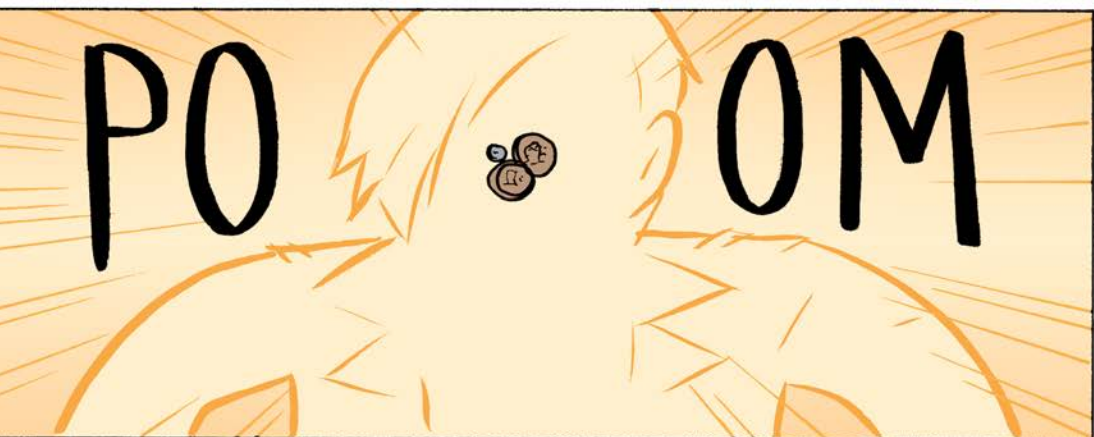




MAYBE

YOU'LL

SEE!





SORRY ABOUT THAT GUY. HOW MUCH DID HE LEAVE?

UMM...



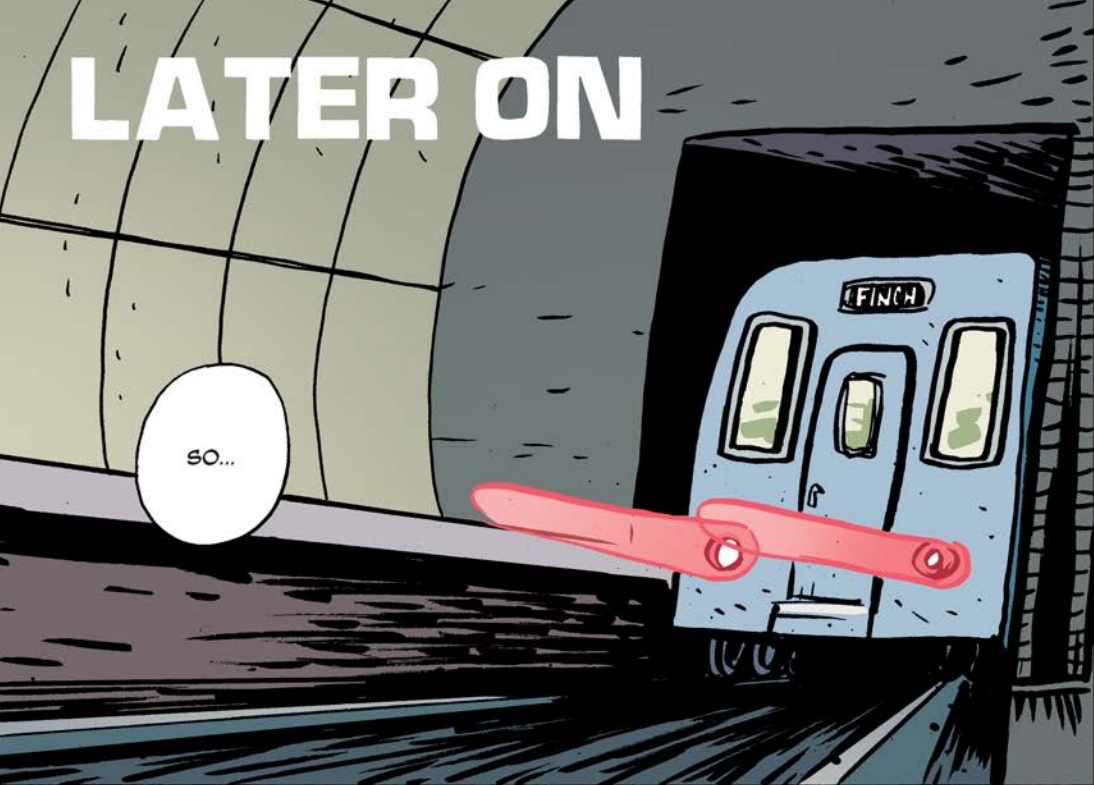
AWW, MAN... \$2.10?! THAT'S NOT EVEN ENOUGH FOR THE SUBWAY BACK HOME!

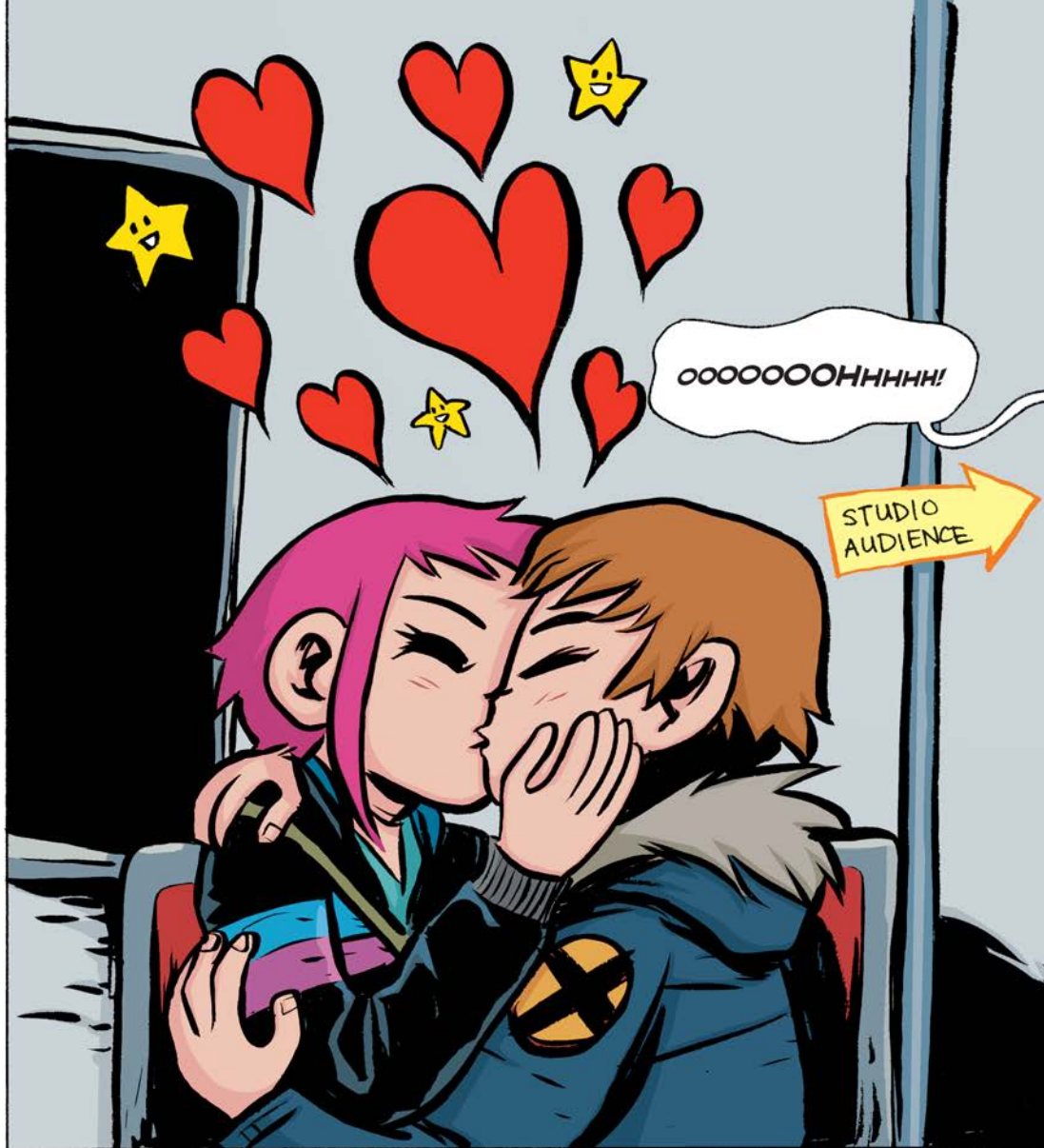
DUDE, I'LL LEND YOU THE FIFTEEN CENTS.



WICKED! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE EVERYONE GETS REALLY MAD AT ME...

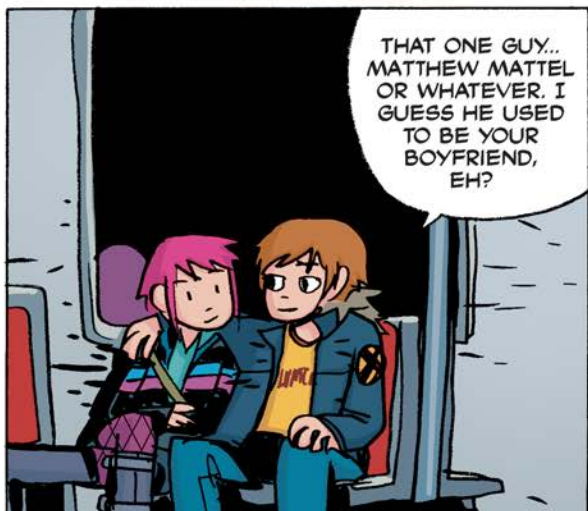
LATER ON





OOOOOOOHHHHH!

STUDIO AUDIENCE



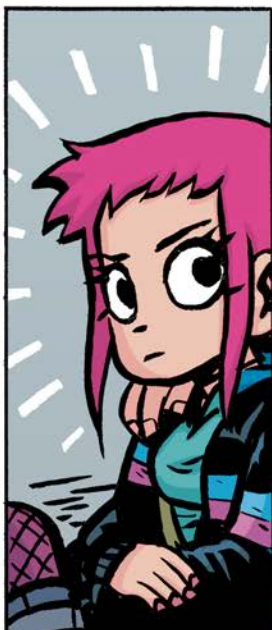
THAT ONE GUY...
MATTHEW MATTEL
OR WHATEVER. I
GUESS HE USED
TO BE YOUR
BOYFRIEND,
EH?



YEAH...
ABOUT
THAT...









UM.



YOUR,
UH...

HEAD...



UM,
ARE YOU
OKAY?



YEAH.
I'M
FINE.



A cartoon illustration of a character with brown hair and wide, white eyes, looking out from a dark window. The character has a worried or surprised expression. The background outside the window is light gray with horizontal motion lines. The text 'TO BE CONTINUED' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a red outline at the bottom right of the image.

**TO BE
CONTINUED**

AFTERWORD

I WAS A 90S TEEN

When I was in high school, I didn't realize that I was living in the 90s. In retrospect it seems obvious.

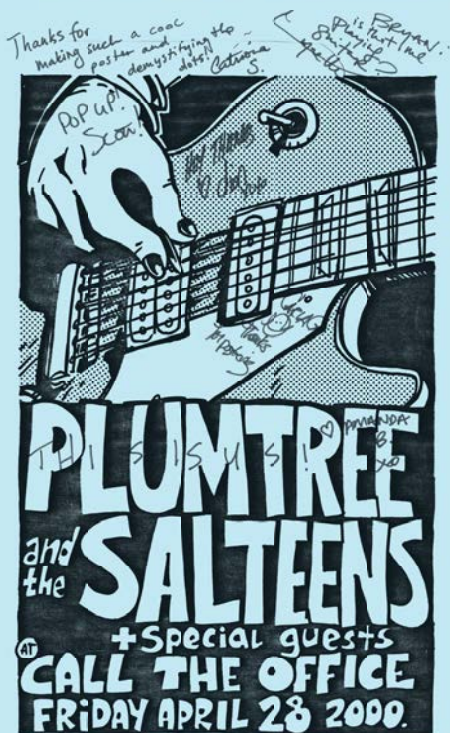
In 1995-1996 I was in "grade 11" (that's what we called it in Canada). I guess I started becoming culturally aware around then. I would go see weird movies at the local art-house cinema, the New Yorker (in London, Ontario...), and I started tuning in to the college radio station from the University of Western Ontario (UWO).

I set my morning alarm clock to it. Every morning I would be blasted awake by mid-90s indie rock and Canadian Content. One morning I heard a song called "In The Sink" by a Halifax all-girl band called Plumtree. It was a catchy weird jangly surf-pop number about a girl and her worm collection. My sister Stacey and I both became obsessed with it, and pretty soon I went looking for Plumtree's album *Mass Teen Fainting* at... the mall.

PLUMTREE

Finding an obscure indie band's CD (label: Cinnamon Toast Records) in the Sunrise Records at Westmount Mall may have been a miracle. The album was amazing, and Plumtree became one of my favorite bands. They were cute and cheerful on the surface but their lyrics were funny and violent and moody and dark. They were only a little older than me, mostly still in high school at the time.

When they were touring for their second



album, they came to London and by then I had a driver's license and took us (me, my sister and her friend Amy Stevens) to the show, at a dive called the Whippet Lounge. We randomly ran into Plumtree's bass player, Catriona, who took us inside and let us hang out with the band for a little while before the show started — soooo amazing! My sister and her friend were still like 16 or something and couldn't stay out late. I still remember the searing guitar from the song "Scott Pilgrim" blasting out the door as we reluctantly left.

BY BRYAN LEE O'MALLEY

GRAPHIC NOVELIST

Long story short: Plumtree broke up in 2000. In 2001 I ran away to California for a while to make comics with my Internet friends (one of whom I platonically shared a bed with for six months), and I started thinking about naming a story after good ol' Scott Pilgrim (whoever he was).

On December 31st 2001 I moved to Toronto with my new roommate Chris. At the beginning of 2002 I had a big breakup, and at the end of 2002 I met a new girl, and in between I moped around Toronto and rode the bus with Chris and shot the shit about this Scott Pilgrim guy and all the things that could happen in his world. His world would be like our world, only way better.

My first graphic novel (*Lost At Sea*) came out in December 2003. I already knew *Scott Pilgrim's Precious Little Life* would be my next project. I had a ton of ideas about the series and I just needed to scale them down to fit into 160 pages. My life at the time became the basis for Scott's cast of characters: the American girlfriend, the unforgettable ex, the gay roommate, the sister, the friends and band members. The rest just rolled out of my brain at ludicrous speeds — I only spent six months writing and drawing this first book, and it was finished in time for a July 2004 release.

BIG DEAL

I went to San Diego Comic-Con in July, but the book was pushed back due to the printing schedule, and we didn't get any copies. I sat at a convention table with nothing

to show. Back in Toronto we threw a little release party. A few people showed up, I signed a handful of books, and that was it.

The next week I had to get a job because I was broke. *Scott Pilgrim* wasn't going anywhere — I was doing indie comics on a microscopic scale. I quietly went to work and started making shit up for Volume 2.

**SCOTT PILGRIM'S
PRECIOUS LITTLE LIFE**
A Book Release Party for
Bryan Lee O'Malley's new
graphic novel, at
sponsored by
BEGUILING
BORDELLO, 603 Markham St.
FRIDAY AUGUST 27th
9 PM

Music will be played both on CD players and by the bands **HONEY DEAR** and **KUPEK**. Food might be served. Drinks will cost you money. You can also buy the book, because that is what you're there for, right?

ONIPRESS
www.radiomaru.com | www.onipress.com | www.beguiling.com

Above: *Scott Pilgrim's Precious Little Life* book release poster.

Left: Plumtree poster by O'Malley



☆ SCOTT WILLIAM PILGRIM ☆

Age: 23
Height: 5'11"
Weight: 155 lbs (approx)
DOB: 27 September 1980 ?
POB: Peterborough, ONTARIO
occupation: recently laid off after a
1-week stint at a restaurant
(they were shut down after a
big D.O.J. bust)

I had drawn some *Hopeless Savages* comics for Oni Press and Jen Van Meter and really enjoyed drawing the character Twitch, who was kind of a mod kid and had cool hair. I think Scott's general look started as an extension of drawing Twitch a whole bunch of times in those comics.

Scott started out as more of a cool kid (i.e. handsome) but became goofier and more cartoony as I kept sketching.

feb 19-20
2004



I wore a big blue parka at the time, so Scott had one too. My dad had given it to me for Christmas before I moved to Toronto.

He got an "X" patch basically because I always wanted one. I thought it would be the coolest thing ever, but was also acutely aware that other people wouldn't agree that it was the coolest thing ever.



X-MEN
PATCH

9 January 2004

At some point a ridiculously long woolen hat came into my life. I think it belonged to my girlfriend. I imagined the hat curling up like some Tim Burton drawing and gave it to Scott like that.

On their first date

RAMONA— So what's with the 'X'?

SCOTT— Hm?

RAMONA— On your jacket.

SCOTT— Oh, this? Well, obviously, one of us went to professor Xavier's school for gifted youngsters, and one of us didn't.

RAMONA— Obviously ONE of us is a total nerd. Did you make that patch yourself?

SCOTT— I don't have to answer that!



YES.

"Tim
Burton
hat"

Throughout the series Scott generally ended up wearing whatever shoes I currently had on. It's just always easier to draw something you see all the time.

SCOTT PILGRIM

IS A STATE OF M.I.'N'D

at an airport
29 mai 2003

Ramona
Flowers

rollerblading
sub-space
american ninja
~~amazon~~ amazon
dot com delivery
girl

Sub-space
suitcase

vintage
shades

Harry
Potter™
Band-aid™

roller
blades

zoomy

what
a jerk!

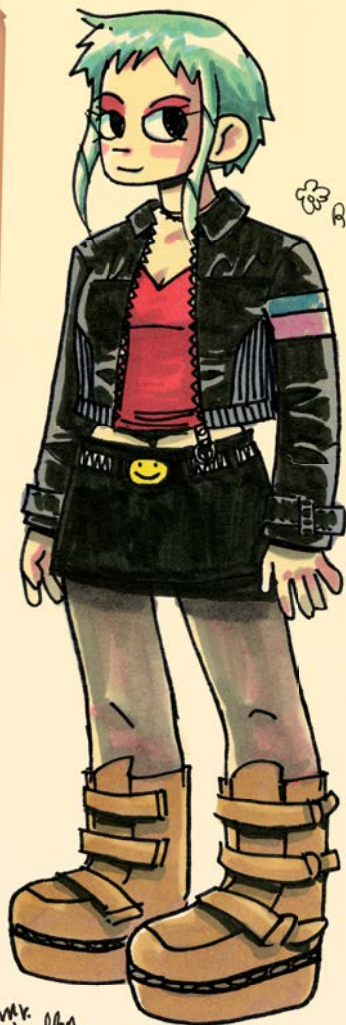
ZIPPY ZIP

Ramona's hairstyle (long in the front, short in the back) was inspired by some girl I saw dancing in a night club probably in the late 90s.

It was always supposed to be crazy colors — part of that comes from manga, where the books were black and white but the illustrations showed the girls' hair colored differently every time. Since it was a black and white book, I never really had to worry about what color her hair was!

I briefly worked with Brian Wood on one of his cool, sophisticated, ass-kicking New York girl comics. Part of the genesis of Ramona was wanting to grab a character like that and take her out of her element to boring old Toronto — I think that's why she was a rollerblading delivery girl.

RAMONA FLOWERS



Mr. O'Malley
2/2004

✿ Ramona Victoria Flowers ✿

Age: Unknown
Height: 5'7" (approx)
Weight: unknown
Occupation: Delivery girl
for Amazon.ca
birthdate: 14 January (year
unknown)
place of birth: unknown
favourite band: Joy Division
favourite film: Grosse Pointe
Blank

* likes kitties more
than puppies

I can't take things for granted - I can't assume that you like my character.
I should work on everything within the story. you should like her by the end. or at least start to understand the way she ticks.



The central conceit of Ramona having seven evil exes came into my head in dumb ways. I wanted to do a "shonen" story with a progression of enemies, and I was fascinated by the idea that my girlfriend had been with other people before me. Seven just seemed like a good number.

I put in the initial notes that Ramona's favorite band was Joy Division. She was a pretty tough cookie at first. As I wrote and drew her more, she lightened up, and her favorite band changed to The Replacements.

Wallace's personality was pretty clearly based on my roommate at the time, Chris, who was my sounding board for the many terrible ideas that eventually became this book. Chris doesn't look like Wallace; I have no idea who Wallace is supposed to look like. He looked like that the first time I ever drew him and he barely changed throughout the series.



Knives

Tamaras



A seventeen year old Chinese-Canadian high school girl. She becomes a total scenester after dating Scott for a short time. He met her on the bus with her mom.

Knives Chau is kind of a vague amalgamation of a lot of different (Asian) girls I knew in my late teens and early twenties. No naming of names. At the same time, she represents "coming of age" very literally — she changes more than any other character through the series, going from an innocent kid to a spurned psycho to a somewhat mature young adult.

Apparently there's a character named Knives in the anime *Trigun*. I didn't know that at the time. I got to Knives by twisting the name "Neve" around in my brain.

KNIVES CHAU

(before)



KNIVES CHAU (after)



KIM PINE
IS CUTE



Kim Pine isn't based on anyone; she's a complete fabrication. The name "Kim Pine" dates back to high school when I was making up a superhero team of X-Men-ripoff mutant outcast teenagers. Kim Pine was an angsty goth-like girl whose body sprouted spikes when anyone got too close to her. Like a porcupine!!! GET IT???



I liked the name and the germ of the character, so I kept her around and put her in other things. She became a regular high schooler in my short-lived *STYLE* strip, which I later plundered for Scott Pilgrim's high school past. For *Scott Pilgrim*, she became a sullen freckled redhead drummer girl — finally, the real Kim. Over the course of the series, she became the heart and soul of everything and has always been one of my favorite characters.



Young Neil is named after the other guy from Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young. Everyone I knew was obsessed with Neil Young in high school; he had a little boom period in the 90s. Initially, Young Neil was actually 9 years old and hung out with these 23 year olds for no apparent reason, but I realized (a) the joke was unsustainable, and (b) I stole it from a gag in *Say Anything*.

Young Neil started out as kind of a nothing character, but he grew a lot throughout the series while staying under the radar. Visually, he was based on my friend Jacob, age 19 (i.e. he was based on a younger version of my friend Jacob from a few years before I started the book).

Stephen Stills is named after the guy from Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and is loosely inspired by my friend Joel, who was the reluctant leader of our unruly rock band in 2003-2004. He played an acoustic guitar through distortion pedals (sound guys hate that), which Stills does too. Stills dresses like a cowboy from 1972 mostly because of his namesake and partly because I was obsessed with Gram Parsons at the time.



Stills's hair looked "weird" to me in this volume and I kept changing it throughout the series, never quite satisfied.





NEIL
MOORDEGRAAF
MARCH 1, 2004.

Young Neil
= Jacob
when age 19.

heart
on sleeve.

bracelets
n shit.

Stacey
Pilgrim



Stacey may have been inspired
by my sister, Stacey.



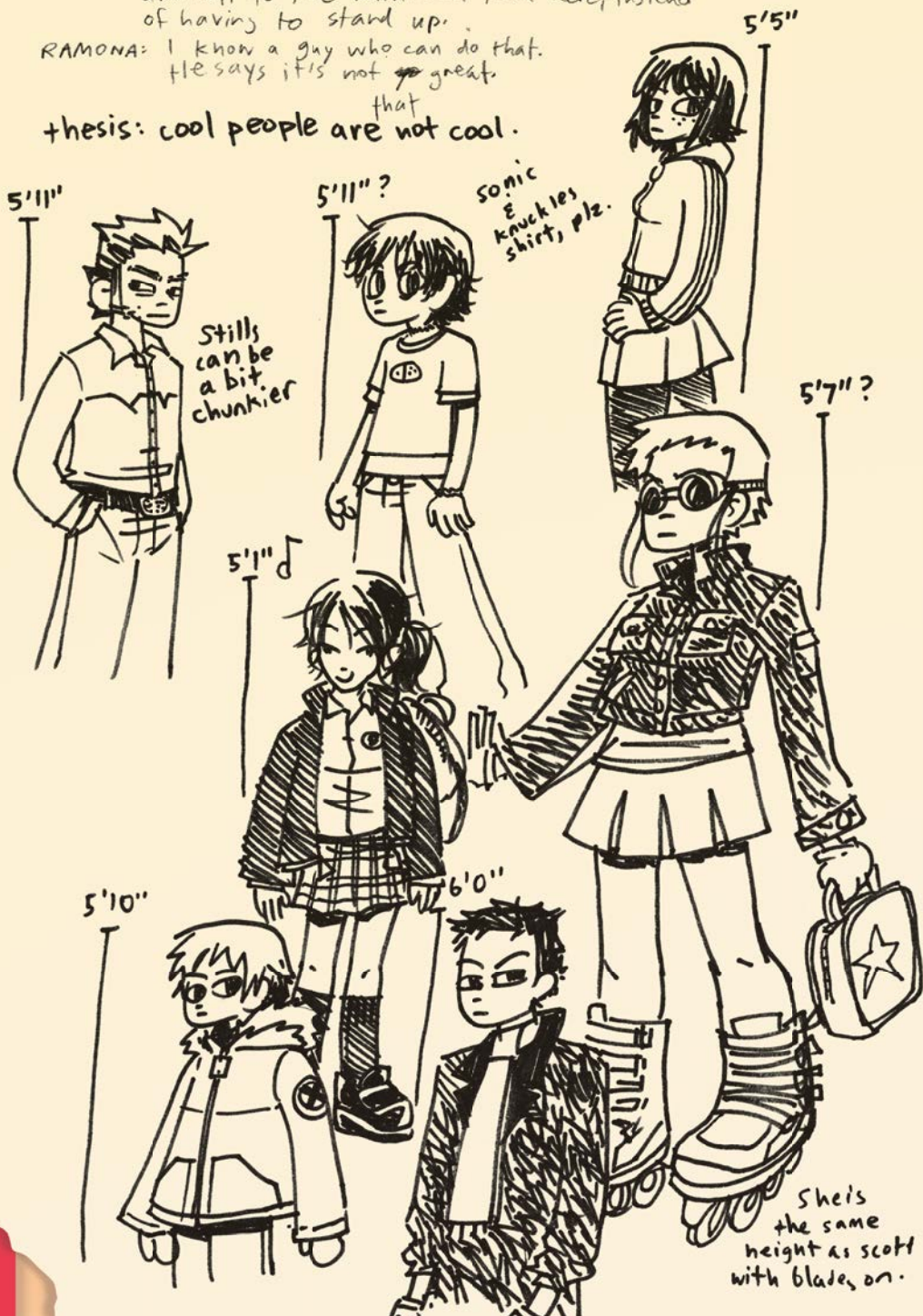
Julie was loosely inspired by a girl I knew in Toronto. I haven't seen her since before all these comics, but if she ever reads this... I'm sorry! I liked her. She was not a superbitch. But it was easy to cartoonify her personality and turn her into one, and I was lazy. I like Julie, too, by the way. She was named Julie Powers both because it rhymes with Flowers and as an homage to Julie Power from *Power Pack*, an old Marvel comic that ruled my life when I was young.



SCOTT: I wish I could turn into a morphing ball and roll to the bathroom from here, instead of having to stand up.

RAMONA: I know a guy who can do that. He says it's not ~~so~~ great.

thesis: cool people are not ^{that} cool.



Sandra and Monique are basically just spokespeople for the vast sea of background characters at all the parties and shows throughout the series. They were named after two girls from my middle school classes (like in 1990-1992, so, a while ago). I wonder if they ever saw the movie or something and were like "wait a minute..."



Comeau is based on a real Comeau in real life. It's complicated.



"Trasha"
age 8
favorite food:
hamburgers.

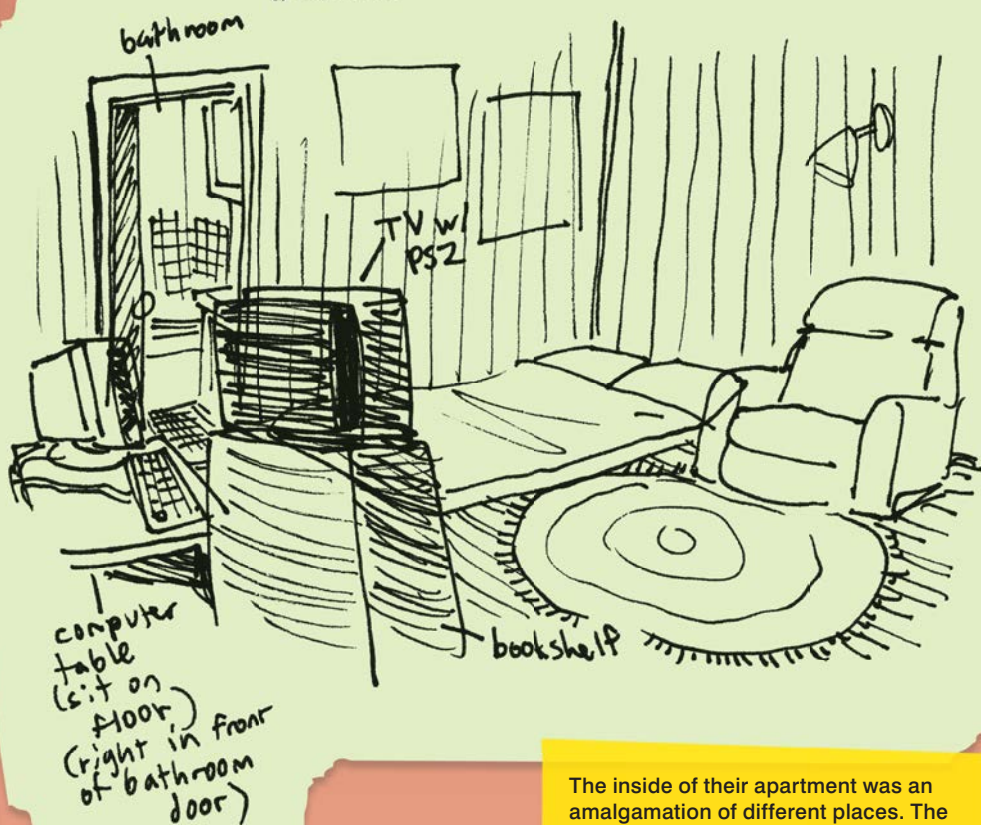
Trasha. I guess I applied the "one of these characters is a little kid" joke here in a different and more interesting way.



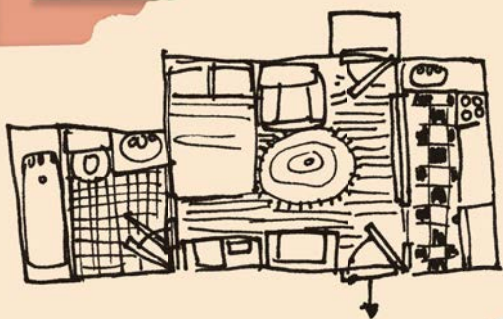
Once upon a time a roommate and I randomly saw a bunch of Bollywood videos on Saturday morning TV and I filed it away as something I wanted to do in a comic someday. Matthew Patel was created mainly for this purpose. He was visually based on a guy I saw on the train one time. Named for Harsh Patel, designer of the titling font used throughout the book: Black Letter Day.

No offense, but
your apartment
is a hole.

SCOTT &
WALLACE'S
place



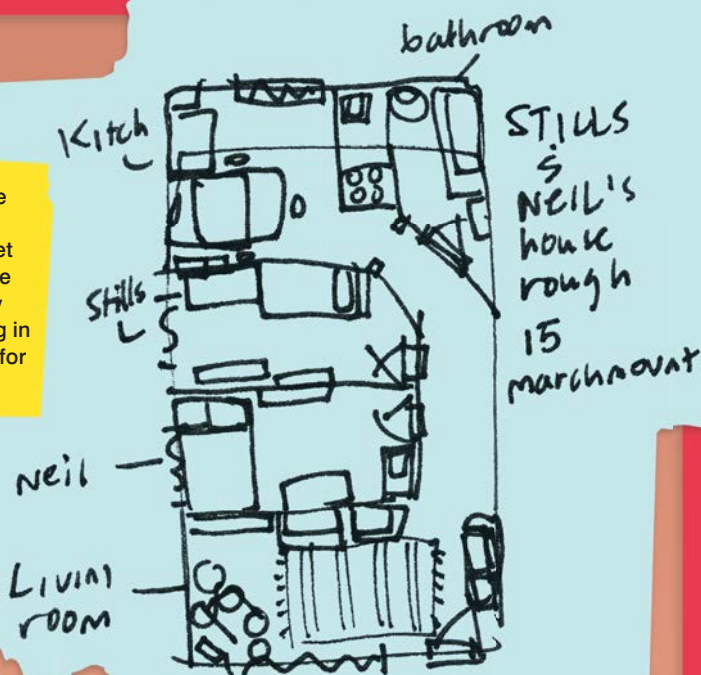
The inside of their apartment was an amalgamation of different places. The chair and TV setup was from Chris's room when we lived together. The round rug was from my room. The kitchen was from my apartment when I lived on my own. I think I had my computer on a short table like that for a while, too.



I drew a floor plan for the apartment that doesn't make any sense. The exterior/interior space doesn't make sense either — in reality that door leads to a closet-sized storage area. Oh well! It's magic!



The exterior of Stephen's house was just down the street from mine. The other end of my street curved in an appealing way. The particular house looked exactly the same as the one I was living in at the time, but I liked it better (for no apparent reason).



The interior was from a completely different place, my friends' apartment on Dundas, where our band used to practice. We used to drink Pepsi out of coffee mugs and eat toast and cook big dinners in that kitchen. It was all real life stuff.



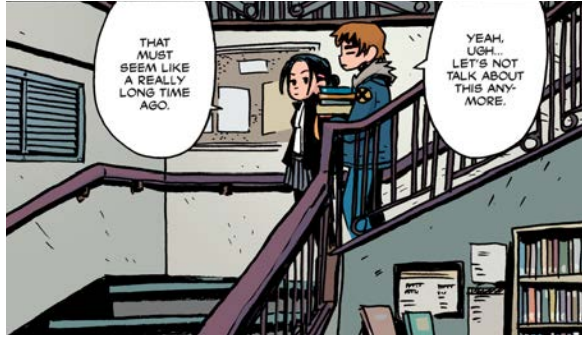


One of the things I figured out on this book was: if I set the story in my very own neighborhood, I could easily seek out locations and try to do a better job of drawing them than I ever had before. I went whole hog with photo reference. My camera back then was very crummy so these were never the best shots, but they were good enough to inject some verisimilitude into my drawings of these mundane Toronto settings.



I was walking around and spotted this bizarre little door with an abandoned grocery cart in front of it and instantly thought, "That's where Scott and Wallace live."





I lived one street over from this library. I worked in libraries all through school, so I have a particular fondness for them.



Knives' school is actually a boys' Catholic school called St. Michael's. The Goodwill and Pizza Pizza and other stuff they visit on their date is all on the same block as the school (around the corner of St. Clair and Bathurst).

THE ORIGINAL PITCH

“Scott Pilgrim”

By Bryan Lee O’Malley

For a series of original graphic novels

21 November, 2003

Volume 1 plot:

Scott Pilgrim is a 23-year-old jobless type of kid living in Toronto. He has a few jerky friends and they’re in a band together. He lives with two gay roommates. He’s dating this Chinese-Canadian high school girl named **Knives Chau**, who is totally thrilled to be going out with a 23-year-old indie rock type of guy. She’s making this gradual transition from preppie Asian girl to ultra-hip scenester indie rock chick, which leaves Scott pretty cold.

Scott has hit this point in his life where he’s in a sort of slacker Zen state. Nothing really bothers him and he’s always pretty cheery, in a laid-back, kind of slightly disturbing way. If Raleigh from *Lost At Sea* was more complex than most people, then Scott is less complex than most people, and that suits him fine. He plays video games, cooks dinner for his friends and roommates, watches television, refrains from smoking or drinking or having sex with his desperately horny 17-year old girlfriend, and has a great old time of it all.

Into this comes a necessary complication: one day, Scott happens to meet a new girl who completely wrecks his mind instantly. All he knows about her is that her name is **Ramona Flowers** (a name he’ll never ever forget) and she’s absolutely amazing and he’s smitten. She starts to show up around town and she even invades his dreams. Through various sources he finds out that she’s some kind of courier or delivery girl and she’s reportedly American. He conspires to meet her. He has some degree of natural charm. They hit it off. Soon his dreams come true and they’re dating.

But wait – he’s still dating Knives Chau, isn’t he? That’s bad. That turns into an ugly scene. She’s a little crazy and unwilling to let go. He somehow weasels his way out. Two weeks later, Knives pops up again, now a full-fledged insanely fashionable scenester indie rock chick. Now she’s dating Scott’s bandmate, **Stephen Stills**. She starts hanging around all the time, coming to band practice and whatnot.

That’s okay. Scott has Ramona and they’re stupidly happy together, although she seems to mention someone named **Gideon** a lot (maybe her brother or something?) and she gets a little odd sometimes. Scott isn’t worried – that’s just part of the package when you have a cool-ass girlfriend.

Around this time, Scott starts getting letters and e-mails and the occasional polite phone call from this one guy named **Matt** who says, very politely, that they are going to have to fight pretty soon. Apparently he’s Ramona’s ex-boyfriend? He tries to set a date for a fight, but Scott is kind of completely uninterested in anything he has to say, and keeps hanging up and hitting delete and trashing letters. One morning the guy calls and gay roommate Wallace gets it and the guy says he’s coming today whether Scott likes it or not. **Wallace** has to go to work, but he warns the still-sleeping Scott that he should probably train or something. Later, Wallace gets back and asks Scott if the guy showed up, and Scott is like “yeah, I won,” barely looking up from his video game. Wallace gets upset and then Scott finally gives in and tells him the whole exciting story, relayed to us in an action-packed flashback fight scene.

That night Scott and Ramona hang out and he asks her what was up with that guy Matt. She says oh yeah, you have to fight my seven evil ex-boyfriends, I guess? He says, is Gideon one of them? But she doesn’t want to talk about it. This is the epilogue of book one and sets the stage for the rest of the series.

About that:

The further books in the series will alternate between fighting, training, band practice, shows, the ongoing relationship with Ramona Flowers, the building mystery of Gideon, the continuing traumatic experience that is Knives Chau, and the constant presence of Scott's friends and family to tell him everything he's doing is wrong, all the time. It's a shonen fight comic (like DRAGONBALL Z or RANMA 1/2) and a slice of life / indie rock / romantic comedy story (like BLUE MONDAY or KAREKANO), all rolled into one. It's a slacker action romantic comedy. I have no idea how many volumes it should be – the easy answer is 7 volumes, one for each evil ex-boyfriend, but I think it can be done in less, depending on the page count. (The future volumes will have extended titles, such as "SCOTT AND THE INFINITE SADNESS," as well as volume numbers.)

Characters:

SCOTT PILGRIM: 23-year-old gifted slacker. In a band called SEX BOB-OMB or "Bobby" for short, plays guitar, poorly. Wears the same clothes every day; has a MedicAlert bracelet that just says "look out". Plays video games and spends too much time on the Internet. He is a good cook and a devilishly charming rogue. Torontonian.

KNIVES CHAU: Scott's (current) girlfriend, a 17-year-old cute, perky, Chinese-Canadian high schooler. Toronto girl. Scott met her on the bus with her mom. She thinks it's really fucking cool to be dating a 23-year-old indie rock kinda guy. Scott is content and delighted with her and generally happy in that weird, disturbing, Seymour Glass way. She is like a pretty doll and he loves hearing her talk about yearbook and high school politics and shit. They're not having sex because he doesn't want to, even though she wants to and claims she's not a virgin.

RAMONA FLOWERS: Scott's (future) girlfriend. A girl who is the shit. Age unknown, everything unknown. She is attractive, fashionable, desirable, badass, quite likely unattainable, American; a delivery girl for Amazon.com. Rollerblading subspace courier, using travel methods unknown to Canadians. Has somewhat fat legs and terrifically pink hair. Carries a subspace suitcase that looks like a trendy bowling bag with a star on it. Her head glows (or whatever the fuck it's doing) when she's upset.

GIDEON GRAVES: (note: he most likely won't appear in Volume 1, although he will be mentioned.) Ramona's (current? ex?) boyfriend, whom she mentions offhandedly sometimes but never seems to give him the importance he seems to command. Lives in New York City. He may or may not be a 7-foot tall, long haired, impeccably purple-suited, flying, ultradimensional supervillain. He may or may not nuke the entire west coast when he finds out Scott and Ramona are dating. He may or may not make people die over the phone line. He may or may not be the last boss of Scott's life.

WALLACE P. WELDON: Scott's gay roommate, who tries not to be a stereotypical gay roommate, but obviously, fails. Acts as Scott's main foil. Hates being called Wally. Deals with Scott's training and generally has information on Scott's next opponents, somehow.

STEPHEN STILLS: Likes to be called "Steve," but Scott, et al., always refer to him as his full name, Stephen Stills, which he hates. In a band with Scott. They never seem to play instruments or anything, though. Stephen Stills is very put-upon.

KIM PINE: (from "Style") Has no idea why she's in this comic. Cute. Went to high school with Scott. Hangs around with them despite herself. She should have better things to do, but apparently does not. A constant presence, and very put-upon. Possibly in the band. Possibly used to date either Scott or Stephen Stills. Nobody really cares. "Why are you here, Kim?" is a common question in these parts.

YOUNG NEIL: 9 years old. Hangs around with Scott and them. Acts just like them. Real name unknown. Possibly in the band. Possibly someone's little brother? We don't really talk about it.

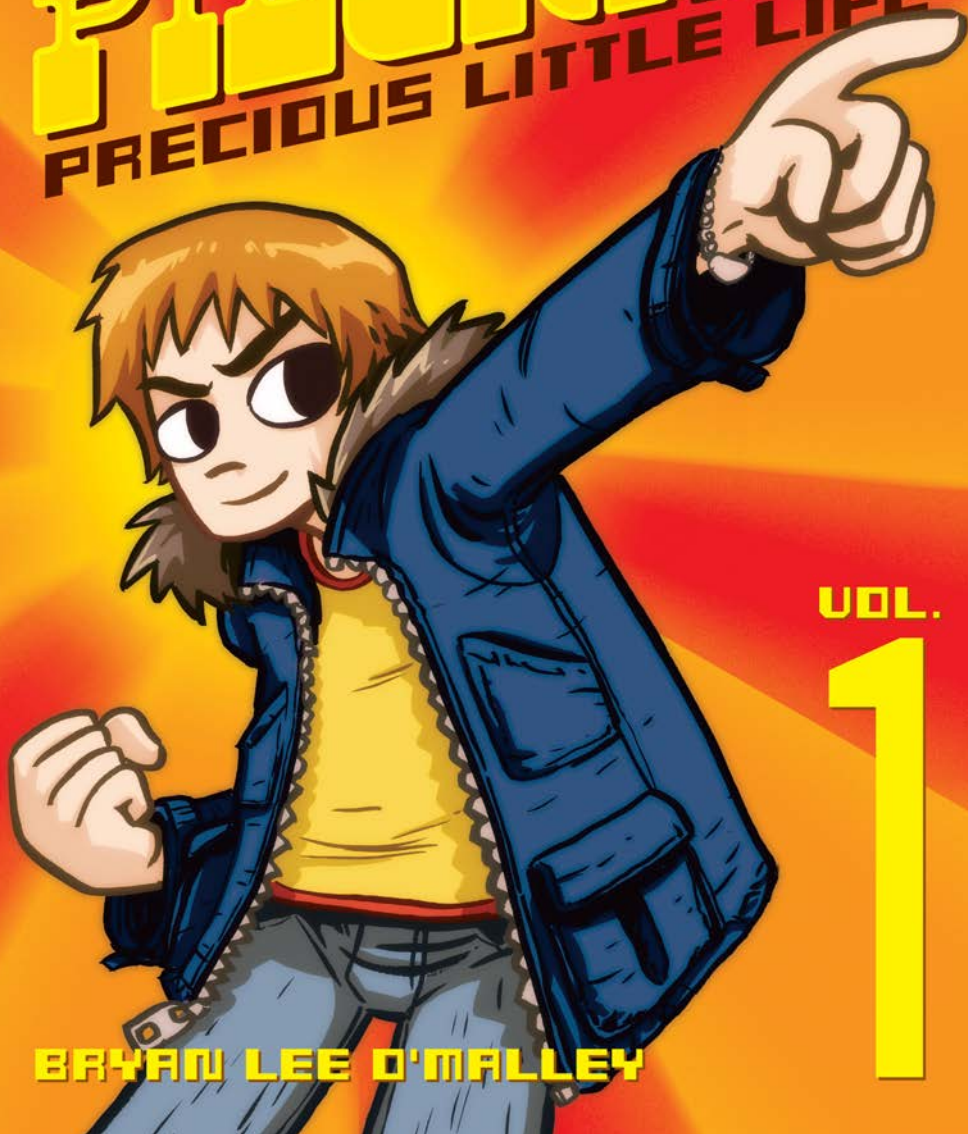
STACEY PILGRIM: Scott's younger, more successful sister. Attends the University of Toronto. Majoring in saving the world. Has various odd jobs which are always somehow fabulous. Dates guys who invariably turn out gay and are seduced by Wallace.





The original opening spread from *Scott Pilgrim's Precious Little Life*.

SCOTT PILGRIM'S PRECIOUS LITTLE LIFE



VOL.

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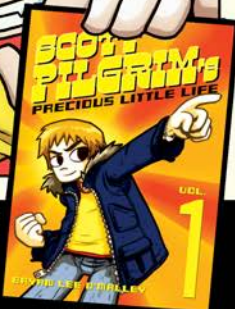
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The original cover for *Scott Pilgrim's Precious Little Life*.

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BRYAN LEE O'MALLEY

is a Canadian cartoonist. His six-volume *Scott Pilgrim* series was a New York Times bestseller, an LA Times Book Prize finalist, and won an Eisner Award, two Harvey Awards, a Doug Wright Award and a Joe Shuster Award. In 2010, *Scott Pilgrim* was adapted into a critically-acclaimed major motion picture (from Universal) and video game (from Ubisoft). O'Malley lives in Los Angeles with his wife (acclaimed cartoonist Hope Larson) and several cats and dogs.

NATHAN FAIRBAIRN

is a Canadian colorist who, since breaking into the industry in 2007, has worked extensively for DC, Marvel, Dark Horse, Top Cow, and Oni Press. He won the Shuster Award in 2010 for *Batman Incorporated*. Titles he has worked on include *Batman Incorporated*, *Wolverine: Weapon X*, *Swamp Thing*, and the Eisner-nominated mini-series *Mystic*. Fairbairn lives in Vancouver, BC.



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